

·述评·

食管胃结合部腺癌的靶向治疗进展

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【摘要】食管胃结合部腺癌是发生于食管和胃交界处的消化系统恶性肿瘤,近年愈受重视并有将其归为一种特殊类型肿瘤的趋势。现有的治疗手段远期疗效仍不尽如人意,靶向治疗为患者生存期延长提供了新的可能。而当下已经投入临床应用的主要是一些抗HER2靶向药物与抗血管生成药物。本文将针对食管胃结合部腺癌的靶向治疗进展作一综述。

【关键词】食管胃结合部腺癌; HER2; EGFR; 血管生成; 靶向治疗

Advances in targeted therapies for adenocarcinoma of the esophagogastric junction

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【Abstract】Adenocarcinoma of the esophagogastric junction (AEG) is a kind of digestive malignant tumor, which locates in esophagogastric junction, is increasingly important and tends to be a specific type of cancer. Long-term results of existing treatments are still poor, while targeted therapies offer new possibilities to improve this situation. Currently, approved targeted therapies are mainly anti-HER2 and anti-angiogenic agents. Herein, we give an overview of advances in targeted therapies for adenocarcinoma of the esophagogastric junction.

【Key words】Adenocarcinoma of the esophagogastric junction; HER2; EGFR; Angiogenesis; Targeted therapy

食管胃结合部腺癌(Adenocarcinoma of the esophagogastric junction, AEG)是发生于食管和胃交界处(Esophagogastric junction, EGJ)的消化系统恶性肿瘤,近年愈受重视并有将其归为一种特殊类型肿瘤的趋势^[1]。2015年我国恶性肿瘤流行情况分析显示,食管癌发病率和死亡率分别为

17.87/10万和13.68/10万;而胃癌的发病率和死亡率分别为29.31/10万和21.16/10万^[2]。2018年全球癌症流行病学统计显示,胃癌新发病例超过100万例,死亡约78.3万例,分别位列第五大常见的恶性肿瘤和第三大肿瘤相关死因;进一步分析显示,非贲门胃癌呈现稳步下降趋势,而贲门癌则呈上升态势,尤其在高收入国家^[3]。因此,AEG的研究应受到更多的重视。而目前基于R0切除的D2根治术仍是AEG的主要治疗手段,但远期疗

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效仍不尽如人意,这就需要新的治疗理念与策略的引入^[4]。阐明其发生发展机制,构建分子分型,进而基于此的精准治疗有望成为改善AEG预后的关键突破口。除去近年已应用于临床的放、化疗策略,靶向治疗的重要性也逐步得以关注和重视。

在过去的十余年里,AEG的分子分型研究凸显出患者间的异质性,并揭示出一些关键的信号通路^[5]。通过应用二代测序(Next generation sequencing, NGS)发现,至少37%的胃癌患者出现受体酪氨酸激酶(Receptor Tyrosine Kinases, RTKs)的基因改变,包括ERBB2、MET、EGFR、KRAS以及FGFR2^[6]。此外,近年关于AEG的一些研究新发现,诸如高频率微卫星不稳定性(Microsatellite Instability-high, MSI-high),EB病毒相关(EBV-associated, EBV),染色体不稳定性(Chromosomal Instability, CIN)以及基因组稳定性(Genomically Stable, GS)等,均为靶向治疗提供了新的可能^[8]。而当下已经投入临床应用的主要是一些抗人表皮生长因子受体-2(Human epidermal growth factor receptor-2, HER2)靶向药物与抗血管生成药物。本文将针对AEG的靶向治疗进展作一综述。

1 抗HER2靶向治疗

HER2为表皮生长因子受体(Epidermal growth factor receptor, EGFR)家族成员之一,暂无已知的直接配体。其发挥作用主要通过两种方式:一是通过与配体活化的EGFR、HER3或者HER4形成异源二聚体,或是以过表达状态形成同源二聚体,即非配体依赖信号通路途径^[9]。HER2过表达使肿瘤更易浸润、对化疗药物更易不敏感,导致预后较差。大约15~20%的AEG呈现HER2过表达,而在远端胃癌中只有10~15%呈现HER2过表达^[10, 11]。HER2是乳腺癌中的重要预后标志物及治疗靶点,与乳腺癌不同的是,AEG中HER2不会表达于所有的细胞,HER2阳性亚克隆可能只是少部分细胞^[12, 13]。因此为避免假阴性结果,至少须采集5处不同部位的肿瘤组织活检^[14]。

1.1 曲妥珠单抗 曲妥珠单抗(Trastuzumab)是以HER-2为靶点的第一个重组的人源化IgG单克隆抗体,可结合并阻断HER2途径,进而抑制肿瘤细胞增殖并诱导其凋亡。一项曲妥珠单抗的III期临床试验ToGA^[15]纳入了594例未治疗的HER2阳性(IHC评分3+或FISH结果为HER2/CEP17比

值≥2)的AEG或胃癌患者,分别接受6周期的顺铂/氟嘧啶单药治疗或联合曲妥珠单抗治疗(8 mg/kg的负荷剂量,随后6 mg/kg,每3周一次,直至进展)。结果显示,曲妥珠单抗不仅将治疗反应率从35%显著提高到了47%,而且将中位总体生存时间(Overall survival, OS)从11.1月延长到了13.8月。曲妥珠单抗的治疗应答与HER2蛋白表达水平相关,对于FISH阳性但是IHC阴性或弱阳性的患者是无效的。对于IHC 3+或者IHC 2+/FISH阳性的患者,中位OS达16.0月,因此曲妥珠单抗已获批用于这类人群。此外,曲妥珠单抗的毒副作用主要是引起患者腹泻、无症状性左室射血分数减少,并未观察到明显的心衰发生。

1.2 拉帕替尼 拉帕替尼(Lapatinib)为EGFR I型和II型(HER2)的酪氨酸激酶抑制剂(Tyrosine kinase inhibitor, TKI)。德国的一项II期临床试验^[16]纳入了37例患者,随机分入卡培他滨加拉帕替尼联合治疗组或拉帕替尼单药治疗组,但是不得不提前中止,因为拉帕替尼单药治疗组在42天(中位治疗时间)后、以及联合治疗组在86天后均出现肿瘤进展;仅联合治疗组中2例患者呈现轻微的治疗应答。

一项III期临床试验TRIO-013/LOGiC^[17-19]纳入了545例HER2阳性的AEG患者,经随机分组,分别接受卡培他滨和奥沙利铂联合拉帕替尼或安慰剂治疗。结果显示拉帕替尼将客观反应率从39%提高到53%,并将中位无进展生存时间(Progression-free survival, PFS)从5.4月延长至6月,但是OS并未显著增加(12.2 vs. 10.5月, HR 0.91, 95% CI 0.73~1.12)。亚组分析显示,亚洲人群(中位OS 16.5 vs. 10.9月)和年龄低于60岁的患者(中位OS 12.9 vs. 9月),其OS可获益。此外观察到拉帕替尼的应用会增加毒副反应,如腹泻、皮疹、手足综合征等。

另一项亚洲的III期临床试验TyTAN^[20]发现,在应用二线治疗方案紫杉醇(每周1次)的人群(261例HER2过表达(FISH阳性)的进展期胃癌患者)中加用拉帕替尼,其中位OS并不能显著获益(11 vs. 8.9月)。然而,在HER2检测IHC 3+的进展期胃癌患者中,其生存可获益(联合治疗组n=52, 紫杉醇单药组n=49, 中位OS 14 vs. 7.6月);而IHC 2+和IHC 0/1的患者并不能获益。

1.3 曲妥珠单抗-美坦新偶联物 虽然曲妥珠单

抗联合化疗是 HER2 阳性进展期胃癌的标准一线治疗方案,但是二线治疗方案尚未确立。曲妥珠单抗-美坦新偶联物(Trastuzumab emtansine, T-DM1)为靶向 HER2 抗体药物结合物,含人源化抗 HER2 IgG1 曲妥珠单抗(Trastuzumab)和微管抑制剂 DM1 (maytansine 衍生物),二者通过稳定硫醚键共价连接。

一项 II/III 期临床研究 GATSBY^[21]评估了 T-DM1 在已治疗过的 HER2 阳性进展期胃癌(不可切除、局部进展、转移性胃癌,包括 AEG)中的疗效及耐受性。结果显示,应用 T-DM1 的患者中位 OS 为 7.9 月,应用紫杉醇的患者则为 8.6 月,二者风险比 1.15,95%CI 0.87~1.15,p=0.86。相比紫杉醇治疗组,T-DM1 组的患者 3 级以上不良反应的发生率更低(60% vs. 70%),而致死性不良反应(4% vs. 4%)、严重不良反应(29% vs. 28%)及不良反应导致治疗中断(14% vs. 14%)的发生率均相似。T-DM1 组的 3 级以上不良反应最常见的是贫血(26%)以及血小板减少(11%),而紫杉醇组为中性粒细胞减少(39%)和贫血(18%)。T-DM1 组的最常见的严重不良反应是贫血(4%)、上消化道出血(4%)、肺炎(3%)、胃出血(3%)以及胃肠道出血(2%),而紫杉醇组为肺炎(4%)、发热性中性粒细胞减少(4%)、贫血(3%)及中性粒细胞减少(3%)。以上结果表明对于已治疗过的 HER2 阳性进展期胃癌患者,应用 T-DM1 治疗并不优于紫杉醇。这类患者的治疗选择仍有限。

1.4 帕妥珠单抗联合曲妥珠单抗并化疗 帕妥珠单抗(Pertuzumab)为 HER2 的抗体,可结合到 HER2 的不同表位进而阻止其形成二聚体。帕妥珠单抗联合曲妥珠单抗并化疗的治疗方案可改善 HER2 阳性的早期乳腺癌以及转移性乳腺癌的生存结局,那么在 AEG 中呢?

一项 III 期临床试验 JACOB^[22]纳入了 780 例 HER2 阳性的转移性胃癌或 AEG 患者,经随机分组,分别接受帕妥珠单抗(840 mg iv)或安慰剂,每 3 周一次,两组均联合曲妥珠单抗(8 mg/kg iv 负荷量,然后 6 mg/kg iv q3w)并化疗(顺铂 80 mg/m² iv q3w,卡培他滨 1000 mg/m² po bid×14 d q3w,或 5-氟脲嘧啶 800 mg/m² iv q24h×5 d q3w)。即帕妥珠单抗组(n=388)接受帕妥珠单抗联合曲妥珠单抗并化疗,对照组(n=392)接受安慰剂加曲妥珠单抗并化疗。帕妥珠单抗组中位随访时间为 24.4 月,对照组为 25.0 月。当帕妥珠单抗组出现 242 例死

亡、对照组出现 262 例死亡时(该节点研究并未中止),治疗组(中位 OS 17.5 月)相比对照组(中位 OS 14.2 月)的 OS 并无显著差异,HR 为 0.84 [95% CI 0.71~1.00]。45%的治疗组患者出现了严重的副反应,而对照组为 39%。最常见的 3~5 级不良反应为中性粒细胞减少(治疗组 116 例[30%],对照组 108 例[28%]),贫血(56 [15%] vs. 65 [17%])以及腹泻(51 [13%] vs. 25 [6%])。对照组出现 7 例(2%)治疗相关死亡,而帕妥珠单抗组无治疗相关死亡。以上结果表明相较于曲妥珠单抗加化疗的治疗方案,帕妥珠单抗联合曲妥珠单抗并化疗的治疗方案并不能显著改善 HER2 阳性的转移性胃癌或 AEG 患者的生存结局。

2 抗 EGFR 靶向治疗

EGFR 为跨膜受体,介导原癌基因表型,在约 30% 的 AEG 中过表达^[23, 24]。肿瘤中 EGFR 过表达与更高的分期、更低的分化、血管侵犯增加以及更短的生存时间相关^[25]。

抗 EGFR 靶向治疗包括单克隆抗体,如西妥昔单抗(Cetuximab)与帕尼单抗(Panitumumab),通过拮抗胞外结合结构域发挥作用^[26, 27];小分子 TKI,如吉非替尼(Gefitinib)、厄洛替尼(Erlotinib)、拉帕替尼(Lapatinib)和阿法替尼(Afatinib),通过竞争性结合胞内酪氨酸激酶结构域发挥作用^[28~30]。早先的多项 II 期临床试验探讨了西妥昔单抗、帕尼单抗或厄洛替尼联合细胞毒性化疗的治疗效果,结果显示 AEG 患者对这些一线治疗反应率在 41~65%^[27, 31~33]。而针对二线治疗的 II 期临床试验评估了吉非替尼或厄洛替尼单药治疗的效果,显示反应率在 9~11%,而且似乎限于近端 EGJ 的肿瘤,而不是远端胃癌^[34, 35]。

后续的 III 期临床试验包括 EXPAND(西妥昔单抗,一线)^[36],REAL-3(帕尼单抗,一线)^[37],以及 COG(吉非替尼,二线)^[38]。但是每项试验的结果都是阴性的,且相比单用化疗,帕尼单抗联合化疗的方案却导致了更差的生存结局。值得注意的是,每项试验纳入的患者并没有应用生物标志物筛选,或许以此为突破口进行进一步研究能够有阳性发现。

3 抗血管生成靶向治疗

血管生成是由血管内皮生长因子(VEGF)与其受体相互作用介导的,在肿瘤的生长及侵袭转

移中发挥重要作用。血管生成抑制剂在多种肿瘤治疗的临床应用中,已被证实可使得患者获益^[39]。

3.1 雷莫芦单抗 雷莫芦单抗(Ramucirumab)可与表达于内皮细胞的血管内皮生长因子受体2(VEGFR2)结合,从而抑制肿瘤新生血管以阻碍肿瘤进展。目前已证实雷莫芦单抗单用或与紫杉醇联用均可使得患者获益。

REGARD临床试验^[40]纳入了355例接受含铂类或含氟嘧啶一线方案治疗的患者,按2:1随机分配接受雷莫芦单抗或安慰剂治疗。结果显示雷莫芦单抗延长了中位OS近6周(5.2 vs. 3.8月),且仅有轻微的毒性(雷莫芦单抗组的高血压发生率为15%,而安慰剂组为8%)。

在RAINBOW试验^[41]中,665例患者分别接受紫杉醇联合或不联合雷莫芦单抗治疗,结果显示联合雷莫芦单抗治疗可延长中位OS近9周(9.6 vs. 7.4月),但会增加血液毒性(III/IV度中性粒细胞减少41 vs. 19%)、高血压(14 vs. 2.5%)以及乏力(12 vs. 5.5%)的发生率。

另一项临床试验^[42]纳入168例患者,探讨FOLFOX±雷莫芦单抗的获益情况。结果显示两组的中位PFS(6.4 vs. 6.7月, stratified HR=0.98, 95% CI 0.69~1.37)及OS(11.7 vs. 11.5月, stratified HR = 1.08, 95% CI 0.73~1.58)无显著差异;客观反应率相似(45.2 vs. 46.4%);雷莫芦单抗治疗的患者有更高的疾病控制率(84.5 vs. 66.7%, p=0.008);但是相较于FOLFOX/安慰剂方案,FOLFOX/雷莫芦单抗方案因其他原因(非疾病进展)所致的中断率较高(48 vs. 16%)。

3.2 贝伐单抗 贝伐单抗(Bevacizumab)为针对VEGF-A配体的重组人源化IgG1单克隆抗体,可与VEGF-A结合并中和其所有生物活性亚型,从而抑制VEGF信号通路的活化,新生血管生长受阻进而使肿瘤的生长受到抑制^[43]。贝伐单抗已被陆续批准成为转移性结直肠癌的一、二线治疗药物^[44],以及胶质细胞瘤^[45]、非小细胞肺癌^[46]、转移性乳腺癌^[47]、转移性肾细胞癌^[48]等的一线治疗药物。而其在AEG中的临床应用仍在探索。

AVAGAST临床试验^[49]评估了化疗(顺铂与卡培他滨)联合或不联合贝伐单抗的治疗方案,共纳入774例进展期胃癌患者(2007年9月至2008年12月)。相比对照组单用化疗,联合贝伐单抗治疗可延长中位OS近8周(12.1 vs. 10.1月, HR 0.87),

但遗憾的是无统计学差异($p = 0.10$, 95% CI 0.73~1.03)。此外,亚组分析显示亚洲患者应用贝伐单抗并不能获益,该结果也在我国的一项III期临床试验AVATAR^[50]中证实。AVATAR试验与AVAGAST试验的设计类似,共纳入202例患者并按1:1随机分配接受卡培他滨/顺铂联合贝伐单抗或安慰剂治疗,结果显示在我国的进展期胃癌患者中卡培他滨/顺铂联合贝伐单抗并不能改善结局,两组的OS及PFS均无显著差异。

3.3 其他血管生成抑制剂 其他抗血管生成的抑制剂包括阿帕替尼(Apatinib)以及多靶点TKI如舒尼替尼(Sunitinib)、索拉非尼(Sorafenib)、瑞格拉非尼(Regorafenib)等。阿帕替尼为针对EGFR2的TKI,我国的一项III期临床试验^[51]显示,对于化疗难治性进展期或转移性胃癌或AEG患者,阿帕替尼可延长PFS 0.8月(2.6 vs. 1.8月),延长OS达1.8月(6.5 vs. 4.7月),且毒副反应处于可接受的安全范围。基于该数据,目前阿帕替尼已被我国批准用于二线化疗后的转移性胃癌或AEG的治疗。舒尼替尼、索拉非尼以及瑞格拉非尼等多靶点TKI,目前部分正在进行II期临床试验,其在AEG中的临床应用价值仍需进一步探索。

4 其他靶向治疗

4.1 抗MET靶向治疗 肝细胞生长因子的酪氨酸激酶受体MET在近25%的胃癌中过表达^[52]。针对MET靶向治疗的I/II期临床试验取得了令人鼓舞的发现,然而2项针对HER2阴性、MET阳性的AEG患者的III期临床试验,结果令人失望。在METGastric试验^[53]中,未经治疗的患者随机分配接受FOLFOX±MET抗体Onartuzumab治疗。结果显示对比安慰剂组,联用Onartuzumab并不能改善患者生存(治疗组vs.安慰剂组,中位OS 11.0 vs. 11.3月),且对反应率和PFS也无显著改善。在RILOMET试验^[54]中,共纳入609例未经治疗的患者,随机分配接受ECX±Rilotumumab治疗。然而由于死亡事件的不平衡(联用Rilotumumab治疗组128例,对照组107例),该研究不得不提前中止,并且治疗组的OS、PFS及总体反应率均显著低于对照组。

4.2 抗mTOR靶向治疗 mTOR(Mammalian Target of Rapamycin)被发现在超过50%的胃癌中过表达,并且与患者的不良预后相关^[55]。早期一项II

期临床研究^[56]发现mTOR抑制剂依维莫司(Everolimus)治疗后,转移性胃癌患者的中位PFS为2.7月,中位OS为10.1月。后续的III期临床试验GRANITE-1^[57],对比了依维莫司和安慰剂对于非选择性的进展期胃癌患者二、三线治疗,发现并不能使患者OS(5.4 vs. 4.3月,p=0.12)获益。

4.3 抗Claudin18.2靶向治疗 Claudin蛋白是紧密连接的结构成分,可密封细胞间隙,在多种肿瘤中过表达,包括AEG。IMAB362是一种作用于Claudin18.2(Claudin18剪接变体2)的嵌合的IgG1单克隆抗体,可增强T细胞浸润及ADCC^[58]。一项II期临床试验^[59]纳入246例Claudin阳性的胃癌或AEG患者,发现EOX(epirubicin/oxaliplatin/capecitabine)联合IMAB362可显著改善患者的PFS(HR 0.5)和OS(HR 0.5)。亚组分析显示Claudin高表达的患者生存获益更显著。IMAB362最常见的不良反应是恶心、呕吐以及中性粒细胞减少。另一项多中心的IIa期临床研究^[60]证实,Claudin18.2阳性的进展期胃癌或AEG患者接受Zolbetuximab(即IMAB362)单药治疗呈现出很好的耐受性及抗肿瘤活性,且反应率与其他单药治疗的靶向药物相似。

4.4 抗PD-1/PD-L1靶向治疗 应用programmed-death 1(PD-1)与programmed-death ligand 1(PD-L1)抑制剂进行免疫检查点抑制的治疗方案,目前已在多种肿瘤中评估,包括AEG。PD-L1可与T淋巴细胞的受体结合继而抑制T细胞增殖并诱导其凋亡,从而阻碍细胞毒性免疫应答。由于9p24的扩增,EBV相关的AEG过表达PD-L1和PD-L2^[61];而高频度微卫星不稳定性肿瘤与免疫浸润增强及检查点抑制剂靶点过表达相关^[62]。Keynote-012试验^[63]评估了PD-1抑制剂派姆单抗(Pembrolizumab)在PD-L1阳性的进展期胃癌患者中的治疗情况,结果显示客观反应率为22%。值得注意的是,虽然PD-L1过表达与更高的反应率相关,但是PD-L1仍是预示不良预后的生物标志物,对于无PD-L1表达的患者仍可出现治疗应答,而PD-L1表达的患者却常不能获益。类似地,在CheckMate-032试验^[64]中,对于化疗难治性的AEG患者,另一种PD-1抑制剂纳武单抗(Nivolumab)在PD-L1阳性和阴性的患者中的客观反应率分别为19%和12%。因此,抗PD-1/PD-L1靶向治疗能否使得患者真正获益,以及如何筛选应用对象,

仍有待进一步研究。

5 总结

AEG的靶向治疗投入临床实际应用可谓道阻且长。多项大型的III期临床研究均以失败告终,原因之一便是AEG的显著异质性,这就要求在未来的研究中制定更细化的纳入标准,而这也依赖于更加精准的分子分型。

目前仅有曲妥珠单抗和雷莫芦单抗被证实可使得患者获益并被批准分别用于一线和二线治疗,而阿帕替尼也被我国批准用于二线化疗后的转移性胃癌或AEG的治疗。亚组分析显示存在MET、EGFR及FGFR2等变异的患者可从相应的靶向治疗中获益,然而由于这类变异不常见以及患者间的异质性,使得试验设计仍然充满挑战。患者的肿瘤分子异质性及多线治疗,同样是成功实施靶向治疗的障碍。免疫检查点抑制剂充满前景,目前正在评估并筛选可能获益的亚组人群。未来的研究中,我们或许应当聚焦于改善诊断方法,筛选鉴定可从靶向治疗获益的预测分子标志物,从而使得精准靶向治疗成为可能。

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