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【基础研究】

TAZ 蛋白在血管紧张素 Ⅱ 诱导的高血压小鼠主动脉纤维化中的作用及其机制

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摘要: 目的 探讨 PDZ 结合域的转录共刺激因子(TAZ)蛋白在血管紧张素 Ⅱ(Ang Ⅱ)诱导的高血压小鼠主动 脉纤维化中的作用及其机制。方法 将 18 只雄性 C57BL/6 小鼠随机分为正常对照组、Ang II 组和 Ang II + 维替泊芬 (Ve)组,每组6只。Ang II 组和 Ang II+Ve 组小鼠皮下植入注满 Ang II 的渗透压微量泵,持续 14 d 释放 Ang II (1.1 mg·kg⁻¹·d⁻¹)诱导小鼠高血压模型;正常对照组小鼠不进行 Ang II 干预。Ang II +Ve组小鼠隔日腹腔注射 1 次 Ve(60 mg·kg⁻¹)至实验结束;AngⅡ组和正常对照组小鼠隔日腹腔注射等量生理盐水。造模结束后,采用尾动脉测 压法测定小鼠收缩压(SBP)、舒张压(DBP)和心率;使用水合氯醛麻醉小鼠,打开胸腔,分离主动脉,采用苏木精-伊红 染色法检测小鼠主动脉厚度, Masson 染色法检测小鼠主动脉纤维化情况, Western blot 法检测 TAZ、转化生长因子-B (TGF-β)、母亲信号蛋白同源物 3(Smad3)、磷酸化母亲信号蛋白同源物 3(p-Smad3)和 I 型胶原蛋白(collagen I)表 达。结果 3 组小鼠 SBP、DBP 比较差异有统计学意义(F=79.900、40.650,P<0.05)。Ang II 组和 Ang II + Ve 组小 鼠 SBP、DBP 显著高于正常对照组, Ang II + Ve 组小鼠 SBP、DBP 显著低于 Ang II 组(P<0.05)。3 组小鼠心率比较差 异无统计学意义(F=0.090,P>0.05)。3 组小鼠主动脉壁厚度比较差异有统计学意义(F=6.791,P<0.05);Ang Ⅱ 组小鼠主动脉壁厚度显著高于正常对照组(t = 3.435, P < 0.05), Ang Ⅱ + Ve 组小鼠主动脉壁厚度显著低于 Ang Ⅱ 组(t=2.598,P<0.05),Ang Ⅱ + Ve 组与正常对照组小鼠主动脉壁厚度比较差异无统计学意义(t=0.361,P>0.05)。 3 组小鼠主动脉壁胶原纤维面积百分比比较差异有统计学意义(F=357.700,P<0.05)。Ang Ⅱ 组和 Ang Ⅱ + Ve 组 小鼠主动脉壁胶原纤维面积百分比显著高于正常对照组(t=25.810、4.882,P<0.05),Ang Ⅱ + Ve 组小鼠主动脉壁 胶原纤维面积百分比显著低于 Ang II 组(t = 20.580, P < 0.05)。Ang II 组小鼠主动脉中 TAZ、TGF-β、p-Smad3、collagen I蛋白 相对表达量显著高于正常对照组(P<0.05);Ang Ⅱ + Ve 组小鼠主动脉中 TAZ、TGF-β、p-Smad3、collagen Ⅰ蛋白相对 表达量显著低于 Ang II 组(P<0.05); Ang II + Ve 组小鼠主动脉中 TGF-β 蛋白相对表达量显著高于正常对照组 (P<0.05), TAZ, p-Smad3, collagen I蛋白相对表达量与正常对照组比较差异无统计学意义(P>0.05)。3 组小鼠主 动脉中 Smad3 蛋白相对表达量比较差异无统计学意义(F=46.010,P>0.05)。结论 TAZ 可通过增加纤维化相关蛋 白p-Smad3及 collagen Ⅰ表达,激活 Hippo通路,促进 Ang Ⅱ 诱导的高血压小鼠主动脉增生和纤维化。

关键词: PDZ 结合域的转录共刺激因子;血管紧张素Ⅱ;高血压;纤维化;维替泊芬

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Role and mechanism of TAZ in aortic fibrosis of angiotensin II -induced hypertensive mice

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Abstract: Objective To investigate the role and mechanism of transcriptional co-activator with PDZ-binding motif (TAZ) in angiotensin II (Ang II)-induced hypertensive mice. Methods Eighteen male C57BL/6 mice were randomly divided into normal control group, Ang II group, Ang II + verteporfin (Ve) group, with six mice in each group. The mice in the Ang II group and Ang II + Ve group were subcutaneously implanted with osmotic pressure micropump filled with Ang II, and Ang II (1.1 mg \cdot kg⁻¹ \cdot d⁻¹) was released for 14 days to induce hypertension models. The mice in the normal control group were not treated with Ang II. The mice in the Ang II + Ve group were intraperitoneally injected with Ve (60 mg \cdot kg⁻¹), every other day, until the end of the experiment. The mice in the Ang II group and normal control group were intraperitoneally injected with

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same amount of saline, every other day. After modeling, the systolic blood pressure (SBP), diastolic blood pressure (DBP) and heart rate of mice were measured by tail artery method; the mice were anesthetized with chloral hydrate, the thoracic cavity was opened, the aorta was isolated, and the thickness of aorta of the mice was measured by hematoxylin-eosin staining, the condition of the fibrosis of aorta of mice was detected by Masson staining, and the expressions of TAZ, transforming growth factor-β(TGF-β), mothers against decapentaplegic homolog 3 (Smad3), phosphorylated mothers against decapentaplegic homolog 3 (p-Smad3) and collagen I (collagen I) were detected by Western blot. Results There were significant differences in SBP and DBP of mice among the three groups (F = 79.900, 40.650; P < 0.05). The SBP and DBP of mice in the Ang II group and Ang II + Ve group were significantly higher than those in the normal control group, the SBP and DBP of mice in the Ang II + Ve group were significantly lower than those in the Ang II group (P < 0.05). There was no significant difference in heart rate of mice among the three groups (F = 0.090, P > 0.05). There was significant difference in the thickness of a rtic wall of mice among the three groups (F = 6.791, P < 0.05); the thickness of a ortic wall of mice in the Ang II group was significantly higher than that in the normal control group (t = 3.435, P < 0.05), and the thickness of a ortic wall of mice in the Ang II + Ve group was significantly lower than that in the Ang II group (t = 2.598, P < 0.05), there was no significant difference in the thickness of agortic wall of mice between the Ang II + Ve group and normal control group (t = 0.361, P > 0.05). There was significant difference in the percentage of collagen fiber area in the aortic wall of mice among the three groups (F = 357.700, P < 0.05). The percentage of collagen fibers area in the aortic wall of mice in the Ang II group and Ang II + Ve group was significantly higher than that in the normal control group (t = 25.810, 4.882; P < 0.05), and the percentage of collagen fibers area in the aortic wall of mice in the Ang II + Ve group was significantly lower than that in the Ang II group (t = 20.580, P < 0.05). The relative expressions of TAZ, TGF-β, p-Smad3 and collagen I protein in a rta of mice in the Ang II group were significantly higher than those in the normal control group (P < 0.05); the relative expressions of TAZ, TGF- β , p-Smad3 and collagen I protein in agrae of mice in the Ang II + Ve group were significantly lower than those in the Ang II group (P < 0.05); the relative expression of TGF-β protein in aorta of mice in the Ang II + Ve group was significantly higher than that in the normal control group (P < 0.05); there was no significant difference in the relative expressions of TAZ, p-Smad3, collagen I protein in aorta of mice between the Ang II + Ve group and normal control group (P > 0.05). There was no significant difference in the relative expression of Smad3 protein in aorta of mice among the three groups (F = 46.010, P > 0.05). Conclusion TAZ can activate Hippo pathway by increasing the expression of fibrosis-associated protein p-Smad3 and collagen I, and promote aortic proliferation and fibrosis in Ang II -induced hypertensive mice.

Key words: transcriptional co-activator with PDZ-binding motif; angiotensin II; hypertension; fibrosis; verteporfin

高血压是一种常见病、多发病,可诱发心血管结 构与功能损伤[1-2]。高血压血管损伤发病机制复杂, 尽管进行了广泛的研究,目前对高血压血管疾病发 病机制仍不明确。Hippo 信号通路是哺乳动物中具 有高度保守功能的细胞信号转导通路,在调控器官 生长、肿瘤发生发展中起着非常重要的作用[34]。 PDZ 结合域的转录共刺激因子(transcriptional co-activator with PDZ-binding motif, TAZ) 是 Hippo 通路的 核心效应分子。有研究发现,心血管疾病的发生可 能与 Hippo 信号通路相关,但 TAZ 蛋白调控高血压 血管损伤的机制还不清楚[5-6]。肾素血管紧张素系 统(renin-angiotensin system, RAS)在调节血压和控 制高血压发病中的重要作用已在大部分研究者中达 成共识。血管紧张素 Ⅱ (angiotensin Ⅱ, Ang Ⅱ)是 RAS 中最具生物活性的成分,可通过与血管紧张素 I 型受体(angiotensin type I receptor, AT1R) 结合 促进血管收缩、血管平滑肌细胞增殖及血管细胞外 基质合成^[7]。维替泊芬(verteporfin, Ve)是 TAZ 抑 制剂^[8]。本课题组前期研究发现,Ve 可逆转 Ang Ⅱ 诱导的小鼠血管内皮细胞炎症因子表达[9]。基于

此,本研究采用灌注 Ang II 建立高血压小鼠模型,观察腹腔注射 Ve 对小鼠血压、血管损伤及纤维化相关蛋白表达的影响,探讨 TAZ 蛋白在 Ang II 诱导的高血压小鼠血管纤维化中的作用及潜在机制,以期为 TAZ 蛋白抑制剂在高血压血管损伤临床治疗中的应用提供依据。

1 材料与方法

- **1.1 实验动物** 18 只无特定病原体(specific pathogen free, SPF)级 8~10 周龄雄性 C57BL/6 小鼠购自北京维通利华实验动物技术有限公司,体质量 20~25 g。
- 1.2 主要试剂与仪器 Ve 购自美国 Selleck 公司, 水合氯醛购自美国 Sigma 公司, 苏木精-伊红(hematoxylin-eosin, HE) 染色试剂、Masson 染色试剂购自北京索莱宝科技有限公司, 甘油醛-3-磷酸脱氢酶(glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase, GAPDH)、TAZ —抗购自美国 Cell Signaling Technology 公司, 母亲信号蛋白同源物 3 (mothers against decapentaplegic homolog 3, Smad3)、磷酸化母亲信号蛋白同源

物 3 (phosphorylated mothers against decapentaplegic homolog 3, p-Smad3)、I型胶原(Collagen I)一抗购 自美国 Santa Cruz Biotechnology 公司,转化生长因 子-β(transforming growth factor-β, TGF-β) —抗购自 武汉爱博泰克(ABclonal)生物科技有限公司,山羊 抗小鼠二抗、抗兔二抗购自美国 Proteintech 公司,增 强化学发光(enhanced chemiluminescence, ECL) 试 剂购自上海碧云天生物技术有限公司;小动物无创 血压仪购自北京软隆生物公司,超声波破碎仪购自 美国 Sonic 公司, 高速台式离心机购自美国 Thermo Scientific 公司,聚丙烯凝胶电泳仪购自美国 Bio-Rad 公司,化学发光成像系统购自美国 APLEGEN 公司, 水平摇床购自北京六一仪器厂,正置荧光显微镜购自 美国 Olympus 公司,半封闭脱水机、自动组织包埋机、 手动石蜡切片机购自德国 Leica 公司, 烤片机、展片机 购自天津天利航空机电有限公司。

1.3 实验方法

1.3.1 动物分组及模型制备 按随机数字表法将 18 只 C57BL/6 小鼠分为正常对照组、Ang II 组、Ang II + Ve 组。Ang II 组和 Ang II + Ve 组小鼠用 50 g·L⁻¹水合氯醛(40 mL·g⁻¹)腹腔注射麻醉,在 肩胛背部剪开 1.5~2.0 cm 切口,游离皮下组织,将充满 Ang II 的渗透压微量泵植入皮下,24 h 连续释放Ang II (1.1 mg·kg⁻¹·d⁻¹,将其溶解于 200 μL生理盐水中),持续 14 d 释放 Ang II诱导高血压模型;正常对照组小鼠不进行 Ang II 干预。Ang II + Ve 组小鼠腹腔注射 60 mg·kg⁻¹ Ve(将 Ve 溶于含体积分数 10%二甲基亚砜的生理盐水溶液中),隔日 1 次,给药至实验结束;AngII组和正常对照组小鼠隔日腹腔注射等量含体积分数 10%二甲基亚砜的生理盐水。

1.3.2 小鼠血压和心率(heart rate, HR)的监测及血管组织取材 造模成功后,采用尾动脉法测定 3 组小鼠尾动脉收缩压(systolic blood pressure, SBP)、舒张压(diastolic blood pressure, DBP)和 HR,具体方法:预热血压仪加热器至 37 ℃,使用固定筒将小鼠置于筒内,连接电脑与血压测量仪,将血压测量仪套于小鼠尾部,待压力曲线稳定在正弦曲线时,每隔 3 min 测量 1 次血压和 HR,共测量 5 次,取均值。使用水合氯醛麻醉小鼠,打开胸腔,分离主动脉环(约 3 mm),将主动脉环用液氮短暂冷却后放置于-80 ℃冰箱保存。

1.3.3 HE 染色法检测小鼠主动脉壁厚度 取3组小鼠主动脉环,经40g·L⁻¹多聚甲醛固定、石蜡包埋后制成4μm厚的切片,在二甲苯中进行2次脱蜡,每次10min;梯度乙醇复水(下行梯度体积分

数 100%、95%、85%、75%),每个梯度复水 3 min,蒸馏水浸泡 2 min。苏木精染液染色 5 min,蒸馏水漂洗,分化液分化 10 s,自来水浸洗 2 次,每次 3 min;然后,伊红染液染色 1 min,弃去多余染色液后快速脱水,透明,封片。使用 DM4B 型 Leica 显微镜拍照,Image J 图像分析系统计算主动脉壁厚度。

1.3.4 Masson 染色法检测小鼠主动脉纤维化情况 取3组小鼠主动脉环,经40g·L⁻¹多聚甲醛固 定、石蜡包埋后制成4 μm 厚的切片。参考 Masson 三色染液说明书观察血管组织纤维化程度,具体措 施:组织切片在二甲苯中进行2次脱蜡,每次 10 min;梯度乙醇复水(下行梯度体积分数 100%、 95%、85%、75%),每个梯度复水3 min,蒸馏水浸泡 2 min;用 Weigert 铁苏木精染色液染色 1 min;酸性 乙醇分化液分化 5 s, 水洗。Masson 蓝化液返蓝 3 min,水洗,蒸馏水洗 1 min; 丽春红品红染色液染 色5 s,冲洗;先后用弱酸工作液洗1 min,磷钼酸溶 液洗3 min,弱酸工作液洗1 min,水洗;然后,用苯胺 蓝染色2 min,水洗;再用配置好的弱酸工作液洗 1 min,水洗;快速脱水,透明,封片;使用 DM4B 型 Leica 显微镜拍照, Image J 图像分析系统计算主动 脉纤维化面积。

1.3.5 Western blot 法检测小鼠主动脉中 TAZ、TGF-β、Smad3、p-Smad3 和 Collagen I 蛋白表达

取 3 组小鼠主动脉环,依据细胞核蛋白抽提试剂盒说明书提取分离细胞核蛋白,使用二喹琳甲酸蛋白定量检测试剂盒进行蛋白定量;取 30 μg 蛋白,使用聚丙烯酰胺凝胶电泳法进行凝胶电泳,分离的蛋白质电转移至聚偏二氟乙烯膜;使用体积分数 5% 牛血清白蛋白室温封闭 2 h,滴加 TAZ 一抗(1:5000)、TGF-β — 抗(1:2000)、Smad3 — 抗(1:2000)、p-Smad3—抗(1:500)、Collagen I — 抗(1:500)、GAPDH — 抗(1:8000),4℃孵育过夜,使用与辣根过氧化酶结合的二抗室温孵育 2 h,ECL 试剂显色;应用化学发光成像系统成像,Image J 软件分析灰度值,以 GAPDH 为内参蛋白,目的蛋白相对表达量以目的蛋白灰度值与内参蛋白灰度值的比值表示。

1.4 统计学处理 应用 GraphPad Prism 8.0.2 软件进行统计学分析,计量资料以均数 \pm 标准差($\bar{x} \pm s$)表示,多组间比较采用单因素方差分析,两两比较采用最小显著性差异法 t 检验,P < 0.05 为差异有统计学意义。

2 结果

2.1 3 组小鼠 SBP、DBP 和 HR 比较 结果见表 1。3 组小鼠 SBP、DBP 比较差异有统计学意义(*F* =

79.900、40.650,P < 0.05)。Ang II 组和 Ang II + Ve 组 小鼠 SBP、DBP 显著高于正常对照组,Ang II + Ve 组小鼠 SBP、DBP 显著低于 Ang II 组,差异有统计学意义(P < 0.05)。3组小鼠 HR 比较差异无统计学意义(F = 0.090,P > 0.05)。

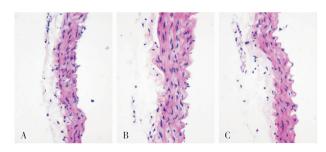
表1 3组小鼠 SBP、DBP和 HR比较

Tab. 1 Comparison of SBP, DBP and HR of mice among the three groups $(\bar{x} \pm s)$

组别	n	SBP/mm Hg	DBP/mm Hg	HR/(次・min ⁻¹)
正常对照组	6	108.3 ± 2.0	68.8 ± 2.3	534.3 ± 23.7
Ang II 组	6	162.0 ± 4.2 a	105.5 ± 3.4 a	523.0 ± 16.5
Ang II + Ve组	6	144.8 ± 2.4 ab	85.2 ± 2.9^{ab}	520.0 ± 32.8
\overline{F}		79.900	40.650	0.090
P		0.000	0.000	0.914

注:与正常对照组比较^aP<0.05;与 Ang Ⅱ 组比较^bP<0.05; 1 mm Hg=0.133 kPa。

2.2 3组小鼠主动脉肥厚比较 结果见图 1。正常对照组、Ang II 组和 Ang II + Ve 组小鼠主动脉壁厚度分别为(40.78 ± 1.63)、(55.30 ± 3.90)、(42.10 ± 3.26) μ m。3组小鼠主动脉壁厚度比较差异有统计学意义(F = 6.791,P < 0.05); Ang II 组小鼠主动脉壁厚度显著高于正常对照组,差异有统计学意义(t = 3.435,P < 0.05); Ang II + Ve 组小鼠主动脉壁厚度显著低于 Ang II 组,差异有统计学意义(t = 2.598,P < 0.05); Ang II + Ve 组与正常对照组小鼠主动脉壁厚度比较差异无统计学意义(t = 0.361,P > 0.05)。



A:正常对照组;B:Ang Ⅱ 组;C:Ang Ⅱ + Ve 组。

图 1 3组小鼠主动脉增生情况(HE染色,×400)

Fig. 1 Aortic hypertrophy of mice in the three groups (HE staining, $\times 400$)

2.3 3组小鼠主动脉纤维化情况比较 结果见图

2。Masson 染色结果显示,与正常对照组比较,Ang II 组小鼠主动脉出现大量呈蓝色异常堆积的胶原纤维分布,Ang II + Ve 组小鼠主动脉纤维化程度较 Ang II 组明显改善。正常对照组、Ang II 组和Ang II + Ve组小鼠主动脉壁胶原纤维面积百分比分别为(3.95 ±0.59)%、(24.25 ±0.52)%、(8.01 ±0.59)%。3 组小鼠主动脉壁胶原纤维面积百分比比较差异有统计学意义(F=357.700,P<0.05)。Ang II 组和 Ang II + Ve 组小鼠主动脉壁胶原纤维面积百分比比较差异有统计学意义(F=357.700,P<0.05)。从由于1 组和 Ang II + Ve 组小鼠主动脉壁胶原纤维面积百分比显著高于正常对照组,差异有统计学意义(F=25.810)。从是20.580,F=25.8100。从是20.580,F=25.8100。



A:正常对照组;B:Ang Ⅱ 组;C:Ang Ⅱ + Ve 组。

图 2 3组小鼠主动脉纤维化情况(Masson 染色, ×400)

Fig. 2 A ortic fibrosis of mice in the three groups (Masson staining , $\times 400$)

2.4 3 组小鼠主动脉中 TAZ、TGF-β、Smad3、p-Smad3 和 collagen I 蛋白相对表达量比较 结果见表 2。Ang II 组小鼠主动脉中 TAZ、TGF-β、p-Smad3、collagen I 蛋白相对表达量显著高于正常对照组,差异有统计学意义(P<0.05)。Ang II + Ve 组小鼠主动脉中 TAZ、TGF-β、p-Smad3、collagen I 蛋白相对表达量显著低于 Ang II 组,差异有统计学意义(P<0.05)。Ang II + Ve 组小鼠主动脉中 TGF-β 蛋白相对表达量高于正常对照组,差异有统计学意义(P<0.05)。Ang II + Ve 组与正常对照组小鼠主动脉中 TAZ、p-Smad3、collagen I 蛋白相对表达量比较差异无统计学意义(P>0.05)。3 组小鼠主动脉中 Smad3 相对表达量比较差异无统计学意义(P>0.05)。

表 2 3 组小鼠主动脉中 TAZ、TGF-β、Smad3、p-Smad3 和 collagen I 蛋白相对表达量比较

Tab. 2 Comparison of the relative expressions of TAZ, TGF- β , Smad3, p-Smad3 and collagen I protein in a rtic of mice among the three groups $(\bar{x} \pm s)$

组别	n	TAZ	TGF-β	p-Smad3	Smad3	collagen I
正常对照组	3	1.00 ± 0.00	1.00 ± 0.00	1.00 ± 0.00	1.00 ± 0.00	1.00 ± 0.00
Ang II 组	3	1.50 ± 0.06^{a}	1.93 ± 0.04^{a}	2.46 ± 0.19^{a}	0.96 ± 0.04	2.98 ± 0.26^{a}
Ang Ⅱ + Ve 组	3	1.19 ± 0.10^{b}	1.34 ± 0.08 ab	$1.67 \pm 0.15^{\rm b}$	0.94 ± 0.10	$1.57 \pm 0.02^{\rm b}$
F		15. 190	92.040	27.850	0.269	46.010
P		0.005	0.000	0.001	0.773	0.000

3 讨论

高血压是一种慢性疾病,可引发心、脑、肾、血管等脏器病变,早期发病主要体现在血管结构和功能改变^[10]。血管纤维化是高血压引起的一种重要的血管改变,反过来血管纤维化可促进血压升高,加速心血管疾病的进展^[11]。在血管纤维化过程中,细胞外基质沉积可导致血管结构重构,最终引起动脉粥样硬化^[12]。血管纤维化及重塑可导致多种高血压并发症,如冠状动脉性心脏病、动脉粥样硬化及肾衰竭等。目前,大部分高血压患者为原发性高血压,发病原因不明,其血管纤维化的发病机制也不十分明确,这是制约有效预防和治疗高血压及其血管并发症的主要因素^[13]。因此,研究高血压患者血管纤维化的机制,对高血压及其血管纤维化的机制,对高血压及其血管纤维化的机制,对高血压及其血管纤维化的机制,对高血压及其血管纤维化的机制,对高血压及其血管纤维化的机制,对高血压及其血管纤维化并发症的预防和治疗具有重要意义。

高血压血管重塑的细胞机制复杂多样,其中肾 素-血管紧张素醛固酮系统(rein-angiotensin-aldosterone-system, RAAS)的激活是最重要的因素之 一^[14]。Ang Ⅱ 是 RAAS 的主要效应分子,主要通过 与 AT1R 结合发挥其生物学效应[15],如激活丝裂原 活化蛋白激酶、Rho 激酶和核因子-κB,可增加血管 平滑肌细胞增殖、纤维化、细胞外基质沉积和内皮功 能障碍,从而促进血管重塑[16-18]。本研究结果显 示,Ang Ⅱ 组和 Ang Ⅱ + Ve 组小鼠 SBP、DBP 显著 高于正常对照组, Ang Ⅱ + Ve 组小鼠 SBP、DBP 显 著低于 Ang Ⅱ 组; Ang Ⅱ 组和 Ang Ⅱ + Ve 组小鼠 主动脉出现大量呈蓝色异常堆积的胶原纤维分布, Ang II 组小鼠主动脉壁厚度显著大于正常对照组, 主动脉壁胶原纤维面积百分比显著高于正常对照 组;Ang Ⅱ + Ve 组小鼠主动脉胶原纤维异常堆积较 Ang Ⅱ 组减轻,主动脉壁厚度、主动脉壁胶原纤维 面积百分比显著低于 Ang Ⅱ 组;这说明,持续灌注 2 周 Ang Ⅱ 即可引起高血压,而高血压可导致小鼠 出现明显的主动脉增生以及纤维化沉积;应用 Ve 干预可减轻高血压程度,并减轻主动脉增生以及主 动脉纤维化沉积。

Hippo 通路是一种高度保守的信号转导通路,在组织器官发育过程中具有多种生物学功能^[19]。TAZ 作为细胞"天线",将细胞外信号传导到细胞内^[20-21]。有研究发现,血流动力学与血管细胞 Hippo/Yes 相关

蛋白/TAZ 信号通路关系密切,血液湍流可引起血管 内皮细胞 YAP/TAZ 信号通路激活,上调血管炎症 因子分泌及引发动脉粥样硬化病变;而血液层流可 抑制 YAP/TAZ 信号通路,进而减轻血管炎症及动 脉粥样硬化损伤[22-23]。在高血压发生发展的过程 中常伴有血液湍流的增加。因此,高血压可导致血 管炎症和动脉粥样硬化损伤。Hippo 通路上游的磷酸 激酶大肿瘤抑制激酶(large tumor suppressor, LATS)通 过磷酸化可抑制下游转录共激活因子 YAP/TAZ 激活。 WENNMANN 等^[24]研究发现,Ang Ⅱ 通过降低 LATS 来 抑制 Hippo 通路活性,激活 YAP 去磷酸化。本研究 结果显示, Ang II 组小鼠主动脉中 TAZ、TGF-β、 p-Smad3、collagen I蛋白相对表达量显著高于正常 对照组, Ang Ⅱ + Ve 组小鼠主动脉中 TAZ、TGF-β、 p-Smad3、collagen I蛋白相对表达量显著低于 Ang Ⅱ 组,Ang Ⅱ+Ve 组与正常对照组小鼠主动脉中 TAZ、 p-Smad3、collagen I蛋白相对表达量比较差异无统 计学意义。这说明,Ang Ⅱ 可能是通过增加小鼠主 动脉 YAP 同源物 TAZ 表达,激活主动脉血管纤维化 相关蛋白 TGF-β、p-Smad3,增加细胞外基质 collagen I 表达,进而导致血管增生和纤维化沉积,从而引发冠 状动脉性心脏病等高血压并发症:Ve 干预可通过降 低 TAZ 的表达而抑制 p-Smad3 及 collagen I 表达, 进而抑制血管增生、阻止纤维化沉积。此外,有研究 报道,细胞外基质的硬度与 TAZ 激活关系密切[25]; 本研究结果显示, Ang Ⅱ上调collagen Ⅰ表达有可能 是促进 TAZ 转入细胞核的关键因素,但这一推测还 需进一步实验去证实。

综上所述,TAZ蛋白可通过激活 Hippo 通路,增加 Ang II 诱导高血压小鼠主动脉纤维化相关蛋白p-Smad3和 collagen I 表达,进而促进主动脉增生及纤维化。TAZ 抑制剂 Ve 可通过降低 TAZ 表达,抑制 Hippo 通路,降低纤维化相关蛋白 p-Smad3 及 collagen I 表达,进而抑制 Ang II 诱导的高血压小鼠主动脉增生及纤维化。

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