

关键词：苦参碱；食管癌；自噬；肝激酶 B1/腺苷酸活化蛋白激酶/哺乳动物雷帕霉素靶蛋白通路；多聚蛋白 62
中图分类号：R285 **文献标志码：**A **文章编号：**1004-7239(2023)10-0901-08

Effect and mechanism of matrine on autophagy of esophageal cancer Eca-109 cells

HOU Minjie ,LIN Shuxuan ,LYU Yang

(*Department of Pathology, Hebei North University, Zhangjiakou 075000, Hebei Province, China*)

Abstract: **Objective** To investigate the effect of matrine on autophagy of esophageal cancer Eca-109 cells and its possible mechanism. **Methods** The subcultured Eca-109 cells were taken and divided into the control group, the low concentration matrine group, the medium concentration matrine group and the high concentration matrine group. The cells in the control group were added with the RPMI 1640 medium which containing volume fraction 10% fetal bovine serum, while the cells in the low, medium and high concentration matrine groups were added with matrine solutions with final concentrations of 1.0, 1.5, 2.0 g · L⁻¹, respectively. The activity of cells in above each group was detected by 3-(4,5)-dimethylthiazolo (-z-yl)-3,5-di-phenyltetrazoliumromide method; the localization and expression of the autophagy related protein of microtubule-associated protein light chain 3 (LC3) in each group was detected by immunofluorescence cytochemical staining; the expressions of polyprotein 62 (P62) and LC3 protein were detected by Western blot; the expression of Beclin1 mRNA was detected by real-time quantitative polymerase chain reaction; the ultrastructure of Eca-109 cells in the control group and the high concentration matrine group was observed by transmission electron microscope. Another subcultured Eca-109 cells were taken and divided into control group, autophagy inhibitor group, matrine group and autophagy inhibitor + matrine group. The cells in the control group were added with 5 mL RPMI 1640 medium which containing volume fraction 10% fetal bovine serum; the cells in the autophagy inhibitor group were added with the final concentration of 7 μmol · L⁻¹ 3-methyladenine (3-MA) solution; the cells in the matrine group were added with the final concentration of 2.0 g · L⁻¹ matrine solution; the cells in the autophagy inhibitor + matrine group were added with the final concentration of 7 μmol · L⁻¹ 3-MA solution for 3 hours, then they were added with the final concentration of 2.0 g · L⁻¹ matrine solution; after 24 hours of cultivation, the expressions of Beclin1, LC3 and liver kinase B1 (LKB1)/adenosine monophosphate-activated protein kinase (AMPK)/mammalian target of rapamycin (mTOR) signaling pathway related proteins in cells in each group were detected by Western blot. **Results** The proliferation inhibition rate of cells in the low, medium and high concentration matrine groups was significantly higher than that in the control group ($P < 0.05$); the proliferation inhibition rate of cells in the medium concentration matrine group, high concentration matrine group was significantly higher than that in the low concentration matrine group ($P < 0.05$); the proliferation inhibition rate of cells in the high concentration matrine group was significantly higher than that in the medium concentration matrine group ($P < 0.05$). The control group and the low, medium and high concentration matrine groups showed positive expression of LC3 protein labeled with red fluorescence in the cytoplasm of Eca-109 cells. The LC3 protein in cells in the control group showed a diffuse state; the LC3 protein in cells in different concentrations of matrine groups showed a spotted state, and the higher the concentration of matrine, the more the spotted LC3 protein in the cytoplasm. The relative expression of P62 protein in Eca-109 cells in low, medium and high concentration matrine groups was significantly lower than that in the control group ($P < 0.05$); the relative expression of P62 protein in Eca-109 cells in the medium and high concentration matrine groups was significantly lower than that in the low concentration matrine group ($P < 0.05$); there was no significant difference in the relative expression of P62 protein in Eca-109 cells between the medium concentration matrine group and the high concentration matrine group ($P > 0.05$). There was no significant difference in LC3-II/LC3-I in Eca-109 cells between the low concentration matrine group and the control group ($P > 0.05$); the LC3-II/LC3-I in Eca-109 cells in the medium and high concentration matrine groups was significantly higher than that in the control group and low concentration matrine group ($P < 0.05$); the LC3-II/LC3-I in Eca-109 cells in the high concentration matrine group was significantly higher than that in the medium concentration matrine group ($P < 0.05$). The relative expression of Beclin1 mRNA in Eca-109 cells in the low, medium and high concentration matrine groups was significantly higher than that in the control group ($P < 0.05$). The relative expression of Beclin1 mRNA in Eca-109 cells in the medium and high concentration matrine groups was significantly higher than that in the low concentration matrine group ($P < 0.05$); the relative expression of Beclin1 mRNA in Eca-109 cells in the high concentration matrine group was significantly higher than that in the medium concentration matrine group ($P < 0.05$). Normal cytoplasm, organelle and nuclei could be seen in the control group; a large number of autophagic vesicles with different sizes and the autophagosome wrapped with cell contents could be seen in the high concentration matrine group. There was no significant difference in the relative expression of Beclin1 protein and LC3-II/LC3-I in Eca-109 cells between the autophagy inhibitor group and the control group ($P > 0.05$); the relative expressions of Beclin1 protein and LC3-II/LC3-I in Eca-109 cells in the matrine group and the autophagy inhibitor + matrine group were significantly higher than those in the control group and autophagy inhibitor group ($P < 0.05$); the relative expressions of Beclin1 protein and LC3-II/LC3-I in Eca-109 cells in the autophagy inhibitor + matrine group were significantly lower than those in the matrine group ($P < 0.05$). The levels of phospho-

rylated LKB1 (p-LKB1)/LKB1 and phosphorylated AMPK (p-AMPK)/AMPK in Eca-109 cells in the autophagy inhibitor group were significantly lower than those in the control group, and the phosphorylated mTOR (p-mTOR)/mTOR was significantly higher than that in the control group ($P < 0.05$); the levels of p-LKB1/LKB1 and p-AMPK/AMPK in Eca-109 cells in the matrine group were significantly higher than those in the control group, and the p-mTOR/mTOR was significantly lower than that in the control group ($P < 0.05$); the levels of p-LKB1/LKB1 and p-AMPK/AMPK in Eca-109 cells in the autophagy inhibitor + matrine group were significantly higher than those in the control group ($P < 0.05$); there was no significant difference in p-mTOR/mTOR in Eca-109 cells between the autophagy inhibitor + matrine group and the control group ($P > 0.05$). The levels of p-LKB1/LKB1 and p-AMPK/AMPK in Eca-109 cells in the matrine group and the autophagy inhibitor + matrine group were significantly higher than those in the autophagy inhibitor group, and the p-mTOR/mTOR was significantly lower than that in the autophagy inhibitor group ($P < 0.05$); the levels of p-LKB1/LKB1 and p-AMPK/AMPK in Eca-109 cells in the autophagy inhibitor + matrine group were significantly lower than those in the matrine group, and the p-mTOR/mTOR was significantly higher than that in the matrine group ($P < 0.05$). **Conclusion** Matrine may induce autophagy in esophageal cancer Eca-109 cells by regulating the expression of LKB1/AMPK/mTOR signaling pathway proteins.

Key words: matrine; esophageal cancer; autophagy; liver kinase B1/adenylate-activated protein kinase/mammalian target of rapamycin pathway; polyprotein 62

食管癌是全球第八大最常见的癌症类型,是导致癌症死亡的第六大原因^[1]。我国的食管癌在华北地区尤为高发,且食管癌患者的预后仍然较差^[2-3]。中药在放化疗治疗食管癌过程中起到了显著的增效减毒作用^[4]。苦参碱已被证明具有抗纤维化、抗病毒、抗炎及免疫调节等多种药理作用^[5-9]。细胞自噬作为一种细胞死亡过程,已被证实与多种人类疾病相关,其在肿瘤发生发展中具有重要意义^[10]。自噬可以调节肿瘤的形成、增殖、转移以及能量代谢等诸多方面^[11]。研究发现,苦参碱可以诱导非小细胞肺癌^[12]、乳腺癌^[13]和髓母细胞瘤^[14]等多种肿瘤细胞发生自噬。但目前关于苦参碱对食管癌细胞自噬的作用研究较少。基于此,本研究初步探讨苦参碱对食管癌自噬的作用及可能的作用机制,以期苦参碱在临床食管癌治疗中的应用提供理论依据。

1 材料与方法

1.1 细胞、药物、试剂及仪器

Eca-109 细胞株购自南京凯基生物科技有限公司;苦参碱(纯度 $\geq 98\%$)购自大连美仑生物技术有限公司;RPMI 1640 培养基购自美国 Corning 公司,胎牛血清购自德国 Cegrogen Biotech 公司,胰蛋白酶购自以色列 Biological Industries (BioInd) 公司,四甲基偶氮唑盐[3-(4,5)-dimethylthiazolium, MTT] 购自梯希爱(上海)化成工业发展有限公司,蛋白提取试剂盒购自英文特生物技术(北京)有限公司,聚氰基丙烯酸正丁脂蛋白定量试剂盒购自河北瑞帕特生物科技有限公司,自噬抑制剂 3-甲基腺嘌呤(3-methyladenine, 3-MA)购自上海优宁维生物科技股份有限公司,兔抗人微管相关蛋白轻链 3 (microtubule-associated protein light chain 3, LC3)、Beclin1 和多聚蛋白 62

(polyprotein 62, P62)一抗购自日本 MBL 公司,兔抗人肝激酶 B1 (liver kinase B1, LKB1)一抗、磷酸化肝激酶 B1 (phosphorylated liver kinase B1, p-LKB1)一抗、实时荧光定量聚合酶链式反应(real-time quantitative polymerase chain reaction, RT-qPCR)试剂盒购自武汉爱博泰克生物技术有限公司,兔抗人腺苷酸活化蛋白激酶(adenosine monophosphate-activated protein kinase, AMPK)、磷酸化腺苷酸活化蛋白激酶(phosphorylated adenosine monophosphate-activated protein kinase, p-AMPK)一抗购自杭州华安生物技术有限公司,兔抗人哺乳动物雷帕霉素靶蛋白(mammalian target of rapamycin, mTOR)、磷酸化哺乳动物雷帕霉素靶蛋白(phosphorylated mammalian target of rapamycin, p-mTOR)一抗购自上海昂龙生物科技有限公司,二抗及荧光二抗购自北京博奥森生物技术有限公司, RNA 提取试剂盒购自成都福际生物技术有限公司,反转录试剂盒购自北京庄盟国际生物基因科技有限公司,Beclin1 基因引物购自上海英潍捷基生物技术有限公司;CO₂ 恒温培养箱购自美国 Thermo 公司,倒置相差荧光显微镜购自日本 Nikon 公司, AI600 超灵敏化学发光成像仪购自美国 GE 公司, Mastercycler nexus gradient 基因扩增仪购自德国 Eppendorf 公司, PikoReal 五通道实时荧光定量 PCR 仪购自美国 Thermo 公司,透射电子显微镜购自日本日立公司。

1.2 实验方法

1.2.1 细胞培养

Eca-109 细胞复苏后,置于 37 ℃、含体积分数 5% CO₂ 的饱和湿度培养箱中培养,待细胞生长至融合度约 80% 时,去除上清,磷酸盐缓冲液(phosphate buffered saline, PBS)洗涤细胞,2.5 g · L⁻¹ 胰蛋白酶消化细胞后加入含体积分数 10% 胎牛血清的 RPMI 1640 培养基传代培养。

1.2.2 MTT 法检测细胞活性

取传代培养 Eca-109 细胞重悬计数,调整细胞密度为 $8 \times 10^7 \text{ L}^{-1}$,接种于 96 孔板中,于细胞生长至融合度约 60% 时,吸去上清,将细胞分为对照组、低浓度苦参碱组、中浓度苦参碱组和高浓度苦参碱组。对照组细胞加入 100 μL 含体积分数 10% 胎牛血清的 RPMI 1640 培养基,低浓度苦参碱组细胞加入终质量浓度为 $1.0 \text{ g} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$ 苦参碱溶液,中浓度苦参碱组细胞加入终质量浓度为 $1.5 \text{ g} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$ 苦参碱溶液,高浓度苦参碱组细胞加入终质量浓度为 $2.0 \text{ g} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$ 苦参碱溶液。继续培养 24 h 后,加入 20 μL MTT,避光孵育 4 h 后,吸去上清,每孔加入 100 μL 二甲基亚砜,温箱孵育 10 min,用酶标仪测 490 nm 处吸光度 (absorbance, A) 值,计算细胞增殖抑制率。细胞增殖抑制率 = $[1 - (A_{\text{药物处理组}} - A_{\text{空白孔}}) / (A_{\text{未处理组}} - A_{\text{空白孔}})] \times 100\%$ 。实验重复 3 次,取均值。

1.2.3 免疫荧光细胞化学染色法检测 Eca-109 细胞中 LC3 蛋白的定位及表达

取传代培养 Eca-109 细胞,重悬计数,调整细胞密度为 $1 \times 10^9 \text{ L}^{-1}$,接种于 24 孔培养板 (24 孔板中已提前放好无菌小圆片),细胞进行爬片,待细胞生长至融合度约 80% 时,吸去上清,分为对照组、低浓度苦参碱组、中浓度苦参碱组和高浓度苦参碱组。对照组细胞加入 500 μL 含体积分数 10% 胎牛血清的 RPMI 1640 培养基,低、中、高浓度苦参碱组细胞的干预措施同“1.2.2”项。各组细胞继续培养 24 h 后用多聚甲醛固定 2 h,弃甲醛,经破膜、染色阻断后,添加兔抗人 LC3 一抗 (滴度为 1 : 1 000),4 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 过夜,避光加入荧光二抗,抗荧光封片,激光共聚焦观察并保存图像。

1.2.4 Western blot 法检测 Eca-109 细胞中 P62 和 LC3 蛋白的表达

取传代培养 Eca-109 细胞,以 1 : 2 比例传代接种于新的培养瓶中,待细胞生长至融合度约 60% 时,倒掉原来的培养基,将细胞分为对照组、低浓度苦参碱组、中浓度苦参碱组和高浓度苦参碱组。对照组细胞加入 5 mL 含体积分数 10% 胎牛血清的 RPMI 1640 培养基,低、中、高浓度苦参碱组细胞的干预措施同“1.2.2”项。各组细胞继续培养 24 h 后用加有蛋白酶抑制剂的细胞裂解液裂解细胞,提取细胞总蛋白并测定浓度,加入适当比例上样缓冲液,经聚丙烯酰胺凝胶电泳,转至聚偏氟乙烯膜,封闭 1 h 后,兔抗人 P62 和 LC3 孵育 (滴度为 1 : 10 000),4 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 摇床过夜,二抗孵育 2 h,经吐温-Tris 缓冲液洗膜 3 次,加显影液显影并保存图像,应用 Image J 软件对图像灰度值进行分析,以 β -actin 为内参,以 P62 和 LC3 蛋白灰度值与内参蛋白灰度值表示 P62 和 LC3 蛋白的相对表达量。实验重复 3 次,取均值。

1.2.5 RT-qPCR 法检测 Eca-109 细胞中 Beclin1 mRNA 的表达

取传代培养 Eca-109 细胞,以 1 : 2 比例传代接种于新的培养瓶中,待细胞生长至融合度约 60% 时,倒掉原来的培养基,将细胞分为对照组、低浓度苦参碱组、中浓度苦参碱组和高浓度苦参碱组,各组细胞的干预措施同“1.2.4”项。各组细胞继续培养 24 h 后,提取总 RNA 并进行 cDNA 的合成,对基因进行扩增。反应体系:cDNA Template、Forward Primer、Reverse Primer 各 1 μL ,2 \times Universal SYBR Green Fast qPCR Mix 5 μL ,ddH₂O 2 μL ;反应条件 95 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 30 s 1 个循环,95 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 5 s、60 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 30 s 40 个循环。以甘油醛-3-磷酸脱氢酶 (glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase, GAPDH) 为内参对照。Beclin1 上游引物序列为 5'-CCACAGAAAGTGCCAACAGC-3',下游引物序列为 5'-GACGTTGAGCTGAGTGTCCA-3';GADPH 上游引物序列为 5'-GTCTCTCTGACTTCAACAGCG-3',下游引物序列为 5'-ACCACCCTGTTGCTGTAGC-CAA-3'。采用 $2^{-\Delta\Delta\text{Ct}}$ 法计算 Beclin1 mRNA 的相对表达量。

1.2.6 透射电子显微镜观察 Eca-109 细胞的超微结构

取传代培养 Eca-109 细胞,以 1 : 2 比例传代接种于新的培养瓶中,待细胞生长至融合度约 80% 时,倒掉原来的培养基,将细胞分为对照组和高浓度苦参碱组,对照组细胞加入 5 mL 含体积分数 10% 胎牛血清的 RPMI 1640 培养基,高浓度苦参碱组细胞加入终质量浓度为 $2.0 \text{ g} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$ 苦参碱溶液。各组细胞继续培养 24 h 后,制成细胞悬液,3 000 $\text{r} \cdot \text{min}^{-1}$ 离心 5 min,PBS 洗涤收集的细胞,然后用戊二醛在 4 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 下固定 24 h,PBS 洗涤后,加入适量 $10 \text{ g} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$ 锇酸,4 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 下固定 3 h,吸去上清,体积分数 30%、50%、70%、80%、90% 丙酮分别脱水 25 min,体积分数 100% I 丙酮脱水 35 min,体积分数 100% II 丙酮脱水 35 min。然后使用丙酮:环氧树脂包埋剂 1 : 1 的溶液浸透,于 37 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 过夜。环氧树脂包埋剂包埋,于 60 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 烤箱中存放 48 h,超薄切片机切割,制作铜网,透射电子显微镜观察并拍照。

1.2.7 Western blot 法检测 Eca-109 细胞中 LC3、Beclin1、LKB1、p-LKB1、AMPK、p-AMPK、mTOR 和 p-mTOR 蛋白的相对表达量

取传代培养 Eca-109 细胞,以 1 : 2 比例传代接种于新的培养瓶中,待细胞生长至融合度约 60 % 时,分为对照组、自噬抑制剂组、苦参碱组 and 自噬抑制剂 + 苦参碱组,对照组细胞加入 5 mL 含体积分数 10% 胎牛血清的 RPMI 1640 培养基,自噬抑制剂组细胞加入终浓度为 $7 \mu\text{mol} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$ 3-MA 溶液,苦参碱组细胞加入终质量浓度为 $2.0 \text{ g} \cdot \text{L}^{-1}$ 苦参碱溶液,

自噬抑制剂 + 苦参碱组细胞先加入终浓度为 $7\text{ }\mu\text{mol}\cdot\text{L}^{-1}$ 的 3-MA 溶液预孵育 3 h,再加入终质量浓度为 $2.0\text{ g}\cdot\text{L}^{-1}$ 苦参碱溶液,继续培养 24 h。采用 Western blot 法检测细胞中 LC3、Beclin1、LKB1、p-LKB1、AMPK、p-AMPK、mTOR 和 p-mTOR 蛋白的表达水平,除一抗 LKB1、p-LKB1、AMPK、p-AMPK、mTOR 和 p-mTOR 的稀释比例为 1:2 000,其余步骤同“1.2.4”项。实验重复 3 次,取均值。

1.3 统计学处理

应用 GraphPad prism 8 软件和 SPSS 22.0 软件对数据进行统计学处理。计量资料以均数 ± 标准差 ($\bar{x} \pm s$) 表示,多组间比较采用单因素方差分析,2 组间比较采用独立样本 *t* 检验; $P < 0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。

2 结果

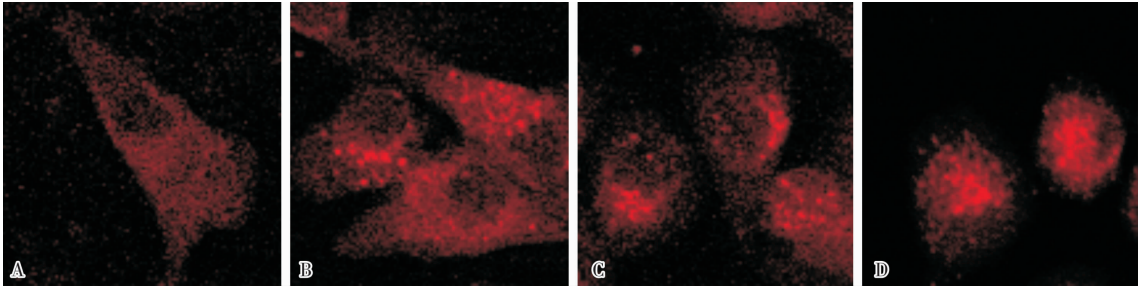
2.1 对照组、低浓度苦参碱组、中浓度苦参碱组和高浓度苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞增殖抑制率比较

对照组、低浓度苦参碱组、中浓度苦参碱组和高

浓度苦参碱组细胞增殖抑制率分别为 $(2.903 \pm 0.788)\%$ 、 $(26.540 \pm 1.386)\%$ 、 $(30.220 \pm 1.357)\%$ 、 $(39.990 \pm 1.167)\%$ 。低、中、高浓度苦参碱组细胞增殖抑制率显著高于对照组,差异有统计学意义 ($P < 0.05$);中浓度苦参碱组和高浓度苦参碱组细胞增殖抑制率显著高于低浓度苦参碱组,差异有统计学意义 ($P < 0.05$);高浓度苦参碱组细胞增殖抑制率显著高于中浓度苦参碱组,差异有统计学意义 ($P < 0.05$)。

2.2 对照组、低浓度苦参碱组、中浓度苦参碱组和高浓度苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞中 LC3 蛋白的定位及表达

对照组、低浓度苦参碱组、中浓度苦参碱组和高浓度苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞质中均可见到红色荧光标记的 LC3 蛋白阳性表达。对照组细胞中 LC3 蛋白呈弥散状态;各浓度苦参碱组细胞中 LC3 蛋白呈斑点状态,且苦参碱浓度越高,细胞质中呈斑点状 LC3 蛋白越多。结果见图 1。

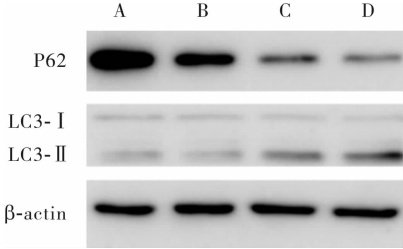


A:对照组;B:低浓度苦参碱组;C:中浓度苦参碱组;D:高浓度苦参碱组。
图 1 Eca-109 细胞中自噬蛋白 LC3 的定位与表达(免疫荧光细胞化学染色,×400)
Fig.1 Localization and expression of autophagic protein LC3 in Eca-109 cells
(immunofluorescent cytochemistry staining, ×400)

2.3 对照组、低浓度苦参碱组、中浓度苦参碱组和高浓度苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞中 P62 和 LC3 蛋白表达比较

低、中、高浓度苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞中 P62 蛋白的相对表达量均显著低于对照组,差异有统计学意义 ($P < 0.05$);中浓度苦参碱组和高浓度苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞中 P62 蛋白的相对表达量显著低于低浓度苦参碱组,差异有统计学意义 ($P < 0.05$);中浓度苦参碱组与高浓度苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞中 P62 蛋白的相对表达量比较差异无统计学意义 ($P > 0.05$)。低浓度苦参碱组与对照组 Eca-109 细胞中 LC3-Ⅱ/LC3-Ⅰ 比较差异无统计学意义 ($P > 0.05$);中浓度苦参碱组和高浓度苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞中 LC3-Ⅱ/LC3-Ⅰ 显著高于对照组,差异有统计学意义 ($P < 0.05$)。中浓度苦参碱组和高浓度苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞中 LC3-Ⅱ/LC3-Ⅰ 显著高于低浓度苦参碱组,差异有统计学意义 ($P < 0.05$);高浓度苦参

碱组 Eca-109 细胞中 LC3-Ⅱ/LC3-Ⅰ 显著高于中浓度苦参碱组,差异有统计学意义 ($P < 0.05$)。结果见图 2 和表 1。



A:对照组;B:低浓度苦参碱组;C:中浓度苦参碱组;D:高浓度苦参碱组。

图 2 对照组、低浓度苦参碱组、中浓度苦参碱组和高浓度苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞中自噬相关蛋白的表达
Fig.2 Expression of autophagy-related proteins in Eca-109 cells in the control group,low concentration matrine group, medium concentration matrine group and high concentration matrine group

表 1 对照组、低浓度苦参碱组、中浓度苦参碱组和高浓度苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞中 P62 蛋白表达量及 LC3-Ⅱ/LC3-Ⅰ 比较

Tab.1 Comparison of the expression of P62 protein and the ratio of LC3-Ⅱ/LC3-Ⅰ in Eca-109 cells among the control group,low concentration matrine group,medium concentration matrine group and high concentration matrine group ($\bar{x} \pm s$)			
组别	<i>n</i>	P62 蛋白	LC3-Ⅱ/LC3-Ⅰ
对照组	3	0.960 ± 0.087	0.886 ± 0.125
低浓度苦参碱组	3	0.563 ± 0.004 ^a	1.167 ± 0.057
中浓度苦参碱组	3	0.260 ± 0.052 ^{ab}	1.900 ± 0.070 ^{ab}
高浓度苦参碱组	3	0.140 ± 0.030 ^{ab}	2.783 ± 0.175 ^{abc}
<i>F</i>		124.100	160.501
<i>P</i>		0.000	0.000

注:与对照组比较^a*P* < 0.05;与低浓度苦参碱组比较^b*P* < 0.05;与中浓度苦参碱组比较^c*P* < 0.05。

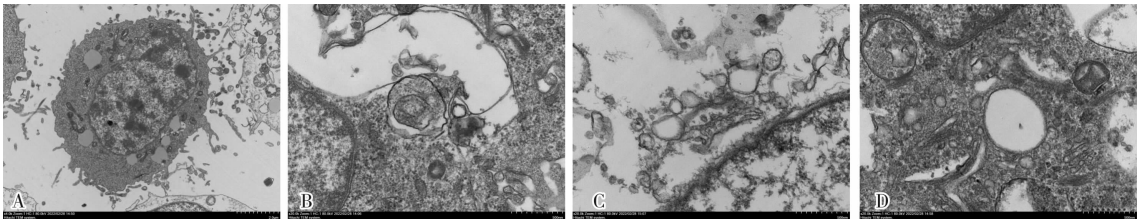
2.4 对照组、低浓度苦参碱组、中浓度苦参碱组和高浓度苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞中 Beclin1 mRNA 表达比较

对照组、低浓度苦参碱组、中浓度苦参碱组和高

浓度苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞中 Beclin1 mRNA 的相对表达量分别为 1.000 ± 0.000、1.730 ± 0.180、3.230 ± 0.255、8.123 ± 0.890。低、中、高浓度苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞中 Beclin1 mRNA 的相对表达量显著高于对照组,差异有统计学意义(*P* < 0.05)。中浓度苦参碱组和高浓度苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞中 Beclin1 mRNA 相对表达量显著高于低浓度苦参碱组,差异有统计学意义(*P* < 0.05);高浓度苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞中 Beclin1 mRNA 的相对表达量显著高于中浓度苦参碱组,差异有统计学意义(*P* < 0.05)。

2.5 对照组和高浓度苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞的超微结构

对照组细胞中可见正常的细胞质、细胞器和细胞核;高浓度苦参碱组细胞质中可见大量大小不等的自噬泡,并可见包裹有细胞内容物的自噬体,而细胞核未见明显异常;结果见图 3。



A:对照组(×3 000);B~D:高浓度苦参碱组(×20 000)

图 3 对照组和高浓度苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞的超微结构(透射电子显微镜)
Fig.3 Ultrastructure of Eca-109 cells in the control group and the high concentration matrine group (transmission electron microscope)

2.6 对照组、自噬抑制剂组、苦参碱组 and 自噬抑制剂 + 苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞中自噬相关蛋白及 LKB1/AMPK/mTOR 信号通路蛋白相对表达量比较

自噬抑制剂组与对照组 Eca-109 细胞中 Beclin1 蛋白的相对表达量和 LC3-Ⅱ/LC3-Ⅰ比较差异无统计学意义(*P* > 0.05);苦参碱组和自噬抑制剂 + 苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞中 Beclin1 蛋白的相对表达量和 LC3-Ⅱ/LC3-Ⅰ 均显著高于对照组,差异有统计学意义(*P* < 0.05)。苦参碱组和自噬抑制剂 + 苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞中 Beclin1 蛋白的相对表达量和 LC3-Ⅱ/LC3-Ⅰ 均显著高于自噬抑制剂组,差异有统计学意义(*P* < 0.05);自噬抑制剂 + 苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞中 Beclin1 蛋白的相对表达量和 LC3-Ⅱ/LC3-Ⅰ 均显著低于苦参碱组,差异有统计学意义(*P* < 0.05)。

自噬抑制剂组 Eca-109 细胞中 p-LKB1/LKB1、p-AMPK/AMPK 显著低于对照组, p-mTOR/mTOR

显著高于对照组,差异有统计学意义(*P* < 0.05);苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞中 p-LKB1/LKB1、p-AMPK/AMPK 显著高于对照组, p-mTOR/mTOR 显著低于对照组,差异有统计学意义(*P* < 0.05);自噬抑制剂 + 苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞中 p-LKB1/LKB1、p-AMPK/AMPK 显著高于对照组,差异有统计学意义(*P* < 0.05);自噬抑制剂 + 苦参碱组与对照组 Eca-109 细胞中 p-mTOR/mTOR 比较差异无统计学意义(*P* > 0.05)。苦参碱组和自噬抑制剂 + 苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞中 p-LKB1/LKB1、p-AMPK/AMPK 显著高于自噬抑制剂组, p-mTOR/mTOR 显著低于自噬抑制剂组,差异有统计学意义(*P* < 0.05);自噬抑制剂 + 苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞中 p-LKB1/LKB1、p-AMPK/AMPK 显著低于苦参碱组, p-mTOR/mTOR 显著高于苦参碱组,差异有统计学意义(*P* < 0.05)。结果见表 2 和图 4。

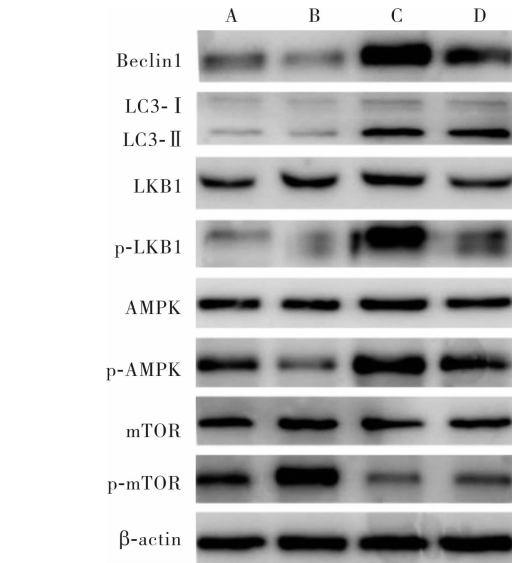
表 2 对照组、自噬抑制剂组、苦参碱组和自噬抑制剂 + 苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞中自噬相关蛋白及 LKB1/AMPK/mTOR 信号通路蛋白相对表达量比较

Tab.2 Comparison of the relative expression of autophagy-related proteins and LKB1/AMPK/mTOR signaling pathway proteins in the Eca-109 cells among the control group ,autophagy inhibitor group, matrine group and autophagy inhibitor + matrine group

($\bar{x} \pm s$)

组别	n	Beclin1 蛋白	LC3- II /LC3- I	p-LKB1/LKB1	p-AMPK/AMPK	p-mTOR/mTOR
对照组	3	1.006 ± 0.005	1.006 ± 0.005	1.006 ± 0.005	1.006 ± 0.006	1.006 ± 0.006
自噬抑制剂组	3	0.726 ± 0.067	0.767 ± 0.112	0.587 ± 0.065 ^a	0.523 ± 0.070 ^a	2.307 ± 1.100 ^a
苦参碱组	3	2.903 ± 0.474 ^{ab}	2.783 ± 0.175 ^{ab}	2.230 ± 0.082 ^{ab}	1.810 ± 0.060 ^{ab}	0.680 ± 0.066 ^{ab}
自噬抑制剂 + 苦参碱组	3	1.523 ± 0.190 ^{abc}	2.023 ± 0.103 ^{abc}	1.363 ± 0.061 ^{abc}	1.343 ± 0.096 ^{abc}	0.850 ± 0.046 ^{bc}
F		42.221	195.200	398.351	197.890	400.001
P		0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000

注:与对照组比较^a $P < 0.05$;与自噬抑制剂组比较^b $P < 0.05$;与苦参碱组比较^c $P < 0.05$ 。



A:对照组;B:自噬抑制剂组;C:苦参碱组;
D:自噬抑制剂 + 苦参碱组。

图 4 对照组、自噬抑制剂组、苦参碱组和自噬抑制剂 + 苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞中自噬相关蛋白及 LKB1/AMPK/mTOR 信号通路蛋白的表达

Fig.4 Expression of autophagy-related proteins and LKB1/AMPK/mTOR signaling pathway proteins in the Eca-109 cells in the control group ,autophagy inhibitor group, matrine group and autophagy inhibitor + matrine group

3 讨论

食管癌是常见的消化道恶性肿瘤,其早期手术治疗有较好的临床效果,但对于进展期患者,单纯手术治疗难以取得满意的临床效果,且术后复发和转移较为多见,因此常辅助以化学治疗、免疫治疗等综合治疗。长期使用一类药物进行治疗时,除药物本身会对患者身体造成一定的损害外,肿瘤亦容易产生耐药性。因此,需要寻找有效且毒副作用较小的新型抗肿瘤药物,制定个性化方案,以延长患者的远期生存率,提高患者的生存质量。

中医药文化历史悠久,中草药因其治疗疾病安

全有效且毒副作用较小等优势,已被广泛用于治疗各种疾病。苦参是一味传统中草药,属豆科槐属植物,其性寒味苦,主要功能是清热燥湿、利尿。苦参碱是来源于苦参的单体成分,目前关于苦参碱对食管癌的治疗效果罕有报道,其作用机制也不清楚。有研究发现,苦参碱具有阻滞细胞周期、诱导肿瘤细胞发生自噬和凋亡等作用,体外实验发现其对肝癌、结肠癌有较好的抑制作用^[15-17]。

研究显示,苦参碱对胃癌具有显著的抗肿瘤活性,而且苦参碱诱导胃癌细胞死亡时凋亡和自噬均被激活^[18]。细胞自噬与肿瘤有着密切关系,在自噬过程中,哺乳动物雷帕霉素靶蛋白复合物(mammalian target of rapamycin complex,mTORC)处于整个自噬过程的起点。细胞内的信号通路如果可以影响到mTORC的活性,那么就能调控下游自噬的过程。抗肿瘤药物常通过诱导肿瘤细胞凋亡或自噬发挥治疗作用^[19]。LIN等^[20]研究发现,苦参碱可抑制肝癌细胞生长、迁移和侵袭,同时促进肝癌细胞凋亡和自噬,进而发挥抗肿瘤作用。本研究发现,不同浓度苦参碱组 Eca-109 细胞中 LC3 荧光斑点随浓度升高而增多,提示苦参碱可诱导 Eca-109 细胞自噬。

AMPK 的激活能磷酸化结节性硬化症复合物,从而促进 mTOR 的失活,诱导细胞自噬水平的提高。AMPK 也能直接磷酸化 mTOR 调节相关蛋白,抑制 mTOR,上调细胞自噬。LKB1 是 AMPK 的上游激酶,其可通过形成 p-LKB1 进而激活 AMPK,从而调节自噬。有研究表明,细胞在缺氧或者缺乏营养的状况下,能激活 AMPK 并显著增加 AMPK 蛋白的表达,抑制 mTOR 的活性,进而激活自噬相关蛋白的表达^[21]。

本研究结果发现,Beclin1 蛋白表达量及 LC3-II/LC3-I、p-LKB1/LKB1 和 p-AMPK/AMPK 在苦参碱组细胞中最高,当加入自噬抑制剂后,相关蛋白的表达量下降;而 p-mTOR/mTOR 在苦参碱组最低,当加入自噬抑制剂后,p-mTOR/mTOR 却增加。本研究

还发现,苦参碱可促进 p-LKB1、p-AMPK 蛋白的表达,抑制 p-mTOR 蛋白的表达,进而上调自噬,这表明苦参碱激活了 LKB1/AMPK/mTOR 信号通路。以上结果提示,苦参碱可能是通过调节 LKB1/AMPK/mTOR 通路蛋白的表达诱导食管癌 Eca-109 细胞发生自噬的。

4 结论

苦参碱可以抑制细胞增殖,诱导细胞产生自噬,LKB1/AMPK/mTOR 信号通路可能涉及自噬的诱导。本研究为苦参碱治疗食管癌提供一定的理论基础,苦参碱可能成为未来临床辅助治疗食管癌的新措施,但苦参碱诱发自噬的具体机制有待深入探究。

参考文献:

[1] UHLENHOPP D J, THEN E O, SUNKARA T, *et al.* Epidemiology of esophageal cancer: update in global trends, etiology and risk factors[J]. *Clin J Gastroenterol*, 2020, 13(6): 1010-1021.

[2] RUSTGI A K, EL-SERAG H B. Esophageal carcinoma[J]. *N Engl J Med*, 2014, 371(26): 2499-2509.

[3] CHEN Z, HU X, WU Y, *et al.* Long non-coding RNA XIST promotes the development of esophageal cancer by sponging miR-494 to regulate CDK6 expression[J]. *Biomed Pharmacother*, 2019, 109: 2228-2236.

[4] 赵雯宇, 司富春, 王文彬, 等. 中药注射液治疗食管癌作用研究进展[J]. 中国实验方剂学杂志, 2021, 27(15): 227-234.

ZHAO W Y, SI F C, WANG W B, *et al.* Chinese medicine injections in treatment of esophageal cancer: a review[J]. *Chin J Exp Tradit Med Form*, 2021, 27(15): 227-234.

[5] 姚莉, 武兴斌, 秦龙. 苦参碱对人膀胱癌 BIU-87 细胞增殖的抑制作用及其机制研究[J]. 中国药房, 2016, 27(16): 2177-2180.

YAO L, WU X B, QIN L. Study on the inhibitory effects of matrine on the proliferation of human bladder cancer BIU-87 cells and its mechanism[J]. *Chin Pharm*, 2016, 27(16): 2177-2180.

[6] ZHAO P, ZHOU R, ZHU X Y, *et al.* Matrine attenuates focal cerebral ischemic injury by improving antioxidant activity and inhibiting apoptosis in mice[J]. *Int J Mol Med*, 2015, 36(3): 633-644.

[7] WANG L, GAO C, YAO S, *et al.* Blocking autophagic flux enhances matrine-induced apoptosis in human hepatoma cells[J]. *Int J Mol Sci*, 2013, 14(12): 23212-23230.

[8] ZHOU H, XU M, GAO Y, *et al.* Matrine induces caspase-independent program cell death in hepatocellular carcinoma through bid-mediated nuclear translocation of apoptosis inducing factor[J]. *Mol Cancer*, 2014, 13: 59.

[9] 智信, 陈晓, 苏佳灿. 苦参碱药理作用研究进展[J]. 成都中医药大学学报, 2017, 40(1): 123-127.

ZHI X, CHEN X, SU J C. Study of pharmacological effects of matrine[J]. *J Chengdu Univ TCM*, 2017, 40(1): 123-127.

[10] 蒋琦炜, 张德宇, 石烟祝, 等. 细胞自噬与肿瘤发生发展[J]. 军事医学, 2021, 45(3): 234-241.

JIANG Q W, ZHANG D Y, SHI Y Z, *et al.* Autophagy and tumor development and progression[J]. *Mil Med Sci*, 2021, 45(3): 234-

241.

[11] 刘虹, 邵荣光. 自噬在肿瘤发生与发展过程中的调节作用[J]. 药学报, 2016, 51(1): 23-28.

LIU H, SHAO R G. The regulatory role of autophagy in tumor process[J]. *Acta Pharm Sinica*, 2016, 51(1): 23-28.

[12] 郝艳梅, 殷红梅, 朱超群, 等. 苦参碱通过抑制 PI3K/AKT/mTOR 通路促进非小细胞肺癌 A549 细胞的自噬和凋亡[J]. 南方医科大学学报, 2019, 39(7): 760-765.

HAO Y M, YIN H M, ZHU C M, *et al.* Matrine inhibits proliferation and promotes autophagy and apoptosis in non-small cell lung cancer cells by deactivating PI3K/AKT/mTOR pathway[J]. *J South Med Univ*, 2019, 39(7): 760-765.

[13] 任莉莉, 王霖玲, 王晓稼. 苦参碱诱导人乳腺癌 Bcap-37 细胞发生自噬与自噬相关蛋白 mTOR 相关性研究[J]. 浙江中西医结合杂志, 2016, 26(9): 783-786.

REN L L, WANG L L, WANG X J. Relationship between matrine induced autophagy and mTOR in human breast cancer Bcap-37 cells[J]. *ZJITCWM*, 2016, 26(9): 783-786.

[14] 周开宇, 吉海龙, 毛天明, 等. 苦参碱体外对人髓母细胞瘤 D341 细胞增殖、凋亡和自噬的作用[J]. 中国药理学与毒理学杂志, 2015, 29(2): 240-246.

ZHOU K Y, JI H L, MAO T M, *et al.* Effect of matrine on cell proliferation, apoptosis and autophagy of human medulloblastoma D341 cells *in vitro*[J]. *Chin J Pharmacol Toxicol*, 2015, 29(2): 240-246.

[15] 郭浩, 周淑妮, 冉瑞智. 苦参碱调控肝癌细胞 HepG2 自噬作用机制研究[J]. 中国药业, 2019, 28(6): 14-17.

GUO H, ZHOU S N, RAN R Z. Mechanism of matrine in regulating autophagy of hepatocellular carcinoma cell line HepG2[J]. *China Pharm*, 2019, 28(6): 14-17.

[16] WEI R, CAO J, YAO S. Matrine promotes liver cancer cell apoptosis by inhibiting mitophagy and PINK1/Parkin pathways[J]. *Cell Stress Chaperones*, 2018, 23(6): 1295-1309.

[17] 苏建伟, 蒋旗, 黄桂柳, 等. 苦参碱对结肠癌耐药细胞化疗药物敏感性及自噬水平的影响[J]. 右江医学, 2016, 44(6): 610-613.

SU J W, JIANG Q, HUANG G L, *et al.* Effect of matrine on chemotherapeutic drug sensitivity and autophagy levels in colon cancer resistant cells[J]. *Youjiang Med J*, 2016, 44(6): 610-613.

[18] 张军强. 苦参碱诱导胃癌细胞自噬和凋亡的机制研究[D]. 兰州: 兰州大学, 2013.

ZHANG J Q. Molecular mechanisms of matrine-induced autophagy and apoptosis in human gastric cancer cells[D]. Lanzhou: Lanzhou University, 2013.

[19] JIANG Q L, ZHANG S, TIAN M, *et al.* Plant lectins, from ancient sugar-binding proteins to emerging anti-cancer drugs in apoptosis and autophagy[J]. *Cell Prolif*, 2015, 48(1): 17-28.

[20] LIN S, ZHUANG J, ZHU L, *et al.* Matrine inhibits cell growth, migration, invasion and promotes autophagy in hepatocellular carcinoma by regulation of circ_0027345/miR-345-5p/HOXD3 axis[J]. *Cancer Cell Int*, 2020, 20: 246.

[21] HOLCZER M, BESZE B, ZAMBO V, *et al.* Epigallocatechin-3-gallate (EGCG) promotes autophagy-dependent survival via influencing the balance of mTOR-AMPK pathways upon endoplasmic reticulum stress[J]. *Oxid Med Cell Longev*, 2018, 2018: 6721530.