

## HIV/AIDS患者免疫重建不良的研究进展

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**【摘要】** 高效抗逆转录病毒治疗(HAART)治疗可以显著降低HIV/AIDS患者的病毒复制,提高CD4<sup>+</sup>T淋巴细胞的数量,重建患者免疫功能。但仍有部分患者在病毒抑制的情况下不能取得良好的免疫重建,发生免疫重建不良现象。近年来,免疫重建不良现象已成为临床研究热点之一。本文从概念、判定标准、发病机制、临床表现和可能的干预措施等方面对HIV/AIDS患者免疫重建不良现象进行了综述。综合文献资料认为,免疫重建不良的发生机制主要涉及骨髓造血功能降低和胸腺输出减少造成的CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞产生减少、免疫活化和凋亡增加造成的CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞破坏增多及体内IL-7等细胞因子水平紊乱等。目前对免疫重建不良尚未有成熟有效的干预措施,及早开始HAART治疗是预防免疫重建不良的关键,其余各种干预措施也在一定程度上改善了HIV/AIDS患者的免疫重建状态。然而,免疫重建不良的机制尚未完全清楚,目前尚未找到行之有效的解决方法,在攻克艾滋病的道路上,免疫重建不良仍然是一个重要的研究领域。

**【关键词】** 高效抗逆转录病毒治疗; 艾滋病; 人类免疫缺陷病毒; 免疫重建

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**【Abstract】** HAART could reduce the viral load to undetectable level and at the same time restore CD4<sup>+</sup>T cells to rebuild immune function of HIV/AIDS patients. However, such immune reconstitution had its limitation. It had been reported that despite fully HIV-1 replication suppression, part of HIV/AIDS patients failed to acquire ideal immune-reconstitution. The phenomenon of immune-reconstitution failure has drawn great attention in the past decade. The definition, criterion, pathogenesis, clinical manifestations and intervention measures of HIV/AIDS patients with immune-reconstruction failure were summarized. It had been reported that the pathogenesis of immune-reconstruction failure mainly involved reduced CD4<sup>+</sup>T cell generation caused by impaired bone marrow hematopoietic function and thymic output, increased CD4<sup>+</sup>T cell destruction caused by immune activation, apoptosis and cytokine disorder and so on. There had not been mature intervention measures till now, early HAART was the key of prevention of immune-reconstitution failure. Despite intensive researches, the pathogenesis and solution of this phenomenon was not yet clear. Immune-reconstitution failure was still an important area of study on the way to conquer AIDS.

**【Key words】** Highly active antiretroviral therapy; Acquired immune deficiency syndrome; Human immunodeficiency virus; Immune reconstitution

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良现象。近年来,免疫重建不良现象已成为临床研究热点之一。本文就免疫重建不良的概念、发生机制及干预措施等最新研究进展作一综述。

### 一、HIV/AIDS患者免疫重建不良的定义

艾滋病(acquired immune deficiency syndrome, AIDS)是人类免疫缺陷病毒(human immunodeficiency virus, HIV)感染引起人体免疫缺陷的综合征。患者由于免疫缺陷而并发一系列机会性感染及肿瘤,最终导致死亡。随着HIV感染者数目的逐年上升,AIDS已成为严重威胁人们健康的公共卫生问题。高效抗逆转录病

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毒治疗可显著降低HIV/AIDS患者的病毒复制,提高CD4<sup>+</sup>T淋巴细胞的数量,重建患者免疫功能,降低病死率<sup>[1-2]</sup>。然而,不同患者对抗病毒治疗的免疫反应不同。既往有报道称,约20%的HIV/AIDS患者在病毒抑制(<50拷贝/ml)情况下不能取得良好的免疫重建。这种现象称为免疫重建不良,这类患者被称为免疫无应答者<sup>[3-6]</sup>。目前,对免疫重建不良尚无明确定义。一些研究将HAART治疗后,CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞计数<200个/μl或CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞数量的增长不足基线的20%的现象定义为免疫重建不良;但目前国内外对判定免疫重建不良的治疗时间尚无共识<sup>[7-10]</sup>。既往研究多关注AIDS患者短期免疫重建不良,对长期接受HAART治疗后仍出现免疫重建不良的患者研究较少。2013年美国健康和人类服务部(Department of Health and Human Services, DHHS)的AIDS治疗指南<sup>[11]</sup>根据目前的研究指出,AIDS患者经4~7年HAART治疗后,CD4<sup>+</sup>T淋巴细胞数仍未达到350个/μl或500个/μl,可认为是免疫重建不良<sup>[12-13]</sup>。

## 二、AIDS患者免疫重建不良的后果

免疫无应答者容易发生机会性感染,长期发病率和病死率也较高<sup>[14-15]</sup>。除外AIDS相关的疾病和死亡,免疫无应答者发生非艾滋相关疾病和死亡的概率也较高。研究证实,低CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞计数可增加心血管疾病的发病率和病死率<sup>[16]</sup>,还与AIDS相关或非相关的肿瘤以及HIV相关的神经认知疾病的发生密切相关<sup>[17-19]</sup>。因此,免疫无应答者应该引起临床工作者的高度重视。

## 三、AIDS患者免疫重建不良的相关因素

HIV/AIDS患者免疫重建不良的相关因素很多。许多研究对免疫重建不良的患者进行了回顾性研究,这些研究观察显示,年龄、基线CD4<sup>+</sup>T淋巴细胞水平、HCV共感染等因素均可影响患者的免疫重建<sup>[12, 20-22]</sup>。除外这些临床观察研究,许多实验室研究对免疫重建不良的内在机制进行了探讨。目前的研究认为,免疫无应答者的CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞数之所以较低,主要原因在于CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞的产生与破坏的失衡,破坏的CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞不能得到有效补充<sup>[23]</sup>。

1. 骨髓造血功能降低: CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞由骨髓的造血干细胞产生,在胸腺中成熟后输出至外周。研究已经证实,HIV感染能够影响患者的造血功能,且免疫重建不良与患者的造血功能耗竭有关<sup>[24-25]</sup>。在这一理论基础上,研究者尝试了CCR5缺陷的造血干细胞移植<sup>[26]</sup>和静脉输注脐带血间充质干细胞<sup>[27]</sup>,前者清除了患者体内的HIV,后者提高了免疫无应答者循环中纯真和中枢记忆性CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞数量,恢复了HIV-1特异性IFN-γ和IL-2的生成,改善了患者的免疫重建状态。

2. 胸腺输出减少: 胸腺输出功能的降低也被认为是免疫重建不良的一个重要机制。研究认为HIV/AIDS

患者接受抗病毒治疗后CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞恢复的程度不同是由于胸腺输出纯真CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞不同<sup>[28]</sup>。研究者通常使用TREC(T细胞重排删除环)、CD31、纯真T细胞数目等指标代表胸腺输出功能;其中,CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞中TREC的含量越大,代表细胞越幼稚,胸腺输出功能越好。胸腺是产生表达αβTCR的T细胞的主要部位。胸腺体积随着年龄增长而萎缩,与之相伴的是胸腺功能的下降。由此推测,胸腺年龄相关的萎缩可能会影响HIV感染时CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞的重建。但是研究发现,成人HIV感染者使用HAART后,纯真CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞数目逐渐升高。通过测定TREC来评估胸腺输出后发现,尽管胸腺功能随着年龄增加而降低,重要的胸腺输出功能一直持续到成人后期。大多数HAART治疗的成人,胸腺输出均有快速而持续的增加。这些结果提示,在HAART后成人胸腺能辅助免疫重建<sup>[29]</sup>。此外,通过CT检查发现,胸腺体积较大患者的免疫重建情况优于体积较小者<sup>[30]</sup>,较大的胸腺体积与较高的CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞计数和较高的TREC量相关,并且胸腺组织较丰富的患者拥有更广泛的免疫储备功能<sup>[31]</sup>。AIDS患者接受抗病毒治疗后,伴随调节性T细胞亚群的变化,其纯真T细胞亚群能够逐渐恢复,同时,CD31表达比例也逐步增加,意味着HAART能够重建AIDS患者胸腺功能;另外,开始治疗之前具有较高纯真T细胞比例的患者,HAART后期CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞计数和胸腺输出功能重建显著优于基线纯真T细胞比例较低的患者<sup>[32]</sup>。

3. 免疫激活: 除外造血功能降低和胸腺功能输出下降之外,CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞耗竭的另外一个重要原因就是破坏增多。研究表明,免疫激活是HIV感染和疾病进展的主要特征之一。免疫激活的原因多且复杂,一种观点认为HIV感染者通过HAART的应用获得病毒学抑制后,其血浆和单核细胞等病毒储存库中仍有低水平的HIV持续存在,这可能造成了持续的免疫活化;且在CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞重建较差的患者中,这种低水平的病毒血症存在更为普遍<sup>[33]</sup>。另一种观点认为,HIV/AIDS患者肠黏膜破坏造成菌群移位,炎性介质不断进入循环,形成了慢性的免疫激活<sup>[34]</sup>。T细胞活化增高对HIV感染的疾病进展有预测价值。持续的免疫活化可能使纯真T细胞池受损并导致CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞耗竭<sup>[35]</sup>。免疫活化主要通过T细胞的表面标志CD38和HLA-DR的表达水平代表,免疫无应答者的免疫活化程度较高<sup>[36-39]</sup>。与之相对应的是,疾病长期不进展的HIV/AIDS患者的T细胞活化水平较低<sup>[40]</sup>。

4. 凋亡增加: 此外,有研究观察到了HIV感染者T细胞的老化现象,特征是增殖能力降低,分泌细胞因子的能力下降,端粒酶活性降低,以及端粒缩短<sup>[41]</sup>,这些均会导致T细胞的凋亡增加。PD-1也可以作为细胞凋亡的指示标志。HIV感染时,终末期T细胞选择性上调PD-1水平,研究发现,免疫无应答者体内PD-1水

平更高,在CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞数较低的患者中发现了更为显著的细胞凋亡的存在<sup>[42-43]</sup>。

5. 细胞因子水平紊乱:白细胞介素-7(IL-7)对T细胞稳态的维持十分重要,IL-7的反应性决定于IL-7受体的存在。有研究发现,在HIV感染者中,IL-7的水平升高而IL-7受体的水平下降,IL-7水平与CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞水平呈负相关关系<sup>[44]</sup>。免疫重建不良者纯真CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞的减少与IL-7R的表达减少及血清IL-7水平升高有关<sup>[7]</sup>。同样作为γ-链细胞因子家族的成员,IL-2和IL-15在HIV感染者体内则是下降的<sup>[45]</sup>,且免疫无应答患者外周血刺激产生IL-2的能力降低<sup>[8]</sup>。

6. T细胞亚群稳态失衡:HIV感染的一个关键特征是持续的免疫活化,CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞的一个亚群-调节性T细胞(Treg)因其抑炎活性而备受关注。由此推测,Treg细胞可能涉及免疫重建不良患者的免疫高活化。Treg细胞本身是CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞,能够感染HIV,HIV/AIDS患者的Treg细胞绝对数降低,但其比例却升高<sup>[46]</sup>。有研究发现,免疫重建不良患者的Treg比例较高但HIV特异性免疫抑制功能降低。健康对照组Treg细胞与活化的CD8<sup>+</sup>T细胞的出现呈很强的负相关关系,但在HIV/AIDS患者中未发现此种相关。免疫重建不良患者的Treg细胞与纯真CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞呈负相关,在健康对照和免疫重建良好的对照中未发现此种相关。且Treg细胞/纯真CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞的值在免疫重建不良患者中较高。从这个角度来看,Treg细胞似乎在抑制纯真CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞增殖起到了更大作用,而非抑制免疫活化<sup>[47]</sup>。

除Treg细胞,目前在HIV感染中研究较多的还有Th17细胞。Th17细胞是一种特殊的辅助性T细胞,其分泌的IL-17能够作为一种趋化因子吸引中性粒细胞到达感染和炎症部位,因此是一种促炎性细胞。Th17细胞能够在黏膜组织中富集并具有保护黏膜屏障完整性和维持黏膜部位免疫稳态的作用。Th17细胞在HIV感染的早期即丢失,这与细菌移位有关。应用HAART后,Th17细胞并不能够从早期的破坏中恢复<sup>[48]</sup>。研究发现,Th17与Treg细胞的比例失衡是HIV/AIDS患者免疫紊乱的重要一环,HIV感染者中的控制良好者较好的保持了二者比例的平衡<sup>[49]</sup>。

目前,已经证实能够分泌IL-17的CD4<sup>+</sup>T促炎性的Th17细胞在调节HIV感染中十分重要,但对HIV感染者Tc17细胞的研究较少。有研究选择治疗两年达到病毒学抑制的3组患者<sup>[50]</sup>:免疫无应答者(CD4<200个/μl)、中等程度免疫应答者(CD4为200~500个/μl)及免疫应答良好者(CD4>500个/μl),分别检测其外周血CD3<sup>+</sup>CD8<sup>+</sup>CD161<sup>high</sup>的Tc17的水平。研究发现,免疫无应答者的Tc17水平低于中等程度应答者、应答良好者及健康对照。所有HIV感染者的Tc17水平均低于健康对照组。因此证实,Tc17细胞在HIV感染时发生了耗竭,且与免疫重建的水平相关。

#### 四、AIDS患者免疫重建不良的干预措施

及早开始HAART治疗:患者基线CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞水平与免疫重建状况密切相关,因此,及早进行HAART治疗对改善AIDS患者的免疫重建十分必要。有研究证实,只有基线CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞计数>350个/μl的患者才能在HAART治疗后恢复正常的CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞计数<sup>[51]</sup>。2013年的WHO抗病毒治疗指南建议在CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞数在500个/μl时即开始进行HAART治疗<sup>[52]</sup>。

针对目前认识到的免疫重建不良的发生机制,研究者也提出了一些积极的干预措施,如下。

1. 生长激素疗法:一项随机、双盲、安慰剂对照的实验证实,每日应用低剂量(0.7 mg)的重组人生长激素40周后,胸腺再生明显,胸腺体积、密度及输出均增加。这是重组人生长激素应用于免疫重建不良患者以提高CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞数量及恢复TCR库多样性的有力佐证<sup>[28]</sup>。对于应用HAART治疗后CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞低于350个/μl的患者,应用重组人生长激素也能在一定程度上提高患者的纯真CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞计数和胸腺体积<sup>[53]</sup>。

2. 免疫抑制剂疗法:慢性免疫激活与系统性的CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞耗竭相关。羟基脲、霉酚酸酯和环孢素A等免疫抑制药物应用于HIV/AIDS患者均在一定程度上降低了病毒载量、提高了CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞数量并降低了免疫活化程度<sup>[54-56]</sup>。免疫抑制剂的作用位点是HIV的靶细胞而非病毒的酶类,这就避免了病毒耐药菌株的产生,有其有利的一面。然而,这些方法的长期安全性和临床收益还不得而知。需要大规模、长期的临床试验来验证。

3. 细胞因子疗法:许多研究者在HAART的基础上加用细胞因子治疗以期获得更好的免疫重建,研究最多的细胞因子是重组IL-2。IL-2不但能显著提高免疫重建不良患者的CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞计数,而且能够提高重建不良患者淋巴-单核系细胞对病原感染的应答功能<sup>[57-58]</sup>。然而,也有研究显示,与单用HAART相比,同时加用皮下注射重组IL-2的患者的CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞计数虽较高,但从两组人群的机会性感染或死亡的风险比来看,IL-2并没有显示出更好的临床收益<sup>[59]</sup>。

IL-7疗法也是研究较为深入的一种治疗方法。IL-7能够增加CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞数量,但是尚未弄清合适的剂量与治疗机制。一项随机、多中心、安慰剂对照,为期1年的I/IIa期临床研究显示:20 μg/kg IL-7安全、无明显不良反应;每周3次IL-7治疗可导致剂量依赖的CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞增加,尤其以纯真和中枢记忆性T细胞增加为主,同时并提高了某些患者的TCR多样性,增加了胸腺输出能力<sup>[60]</sup>。

4. 中医中药疗法:中医药的特点在于调整人体功能状态,加强机体的反应性和适应性,对促进免疫重建起积极作用。王阶等<sup>[61]</sup>观察到中药免疫2号方能够提高免疫重建不良患者CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞绝对计数,提高免

疫重建有效率,改善部分患者的临床症状和体征。目前,中医药研究者研制出艾灵颗粒、爱康胶囊等多种复方制剂应用于HIV/AIDS患者,对患者的免疫重建均有不同程度的改善<sup>[62]</sup>。中医药为促进艾滋病免疫重建提供了一条有益的途径。

### 五、结论与展望

本文从概念、判定标准、发病机制、临床表现和可能的干预措施等方面对HIV/AIDS患者免疫重建不良现象进行了综述。综合文献资料认为,免疫重建不良的发生机制主要涉及骨髓造血功能降低和胸腺输出减少造成的CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞产生减少、免疫活化和凋亡增加造成的CD4<sup>+</sup>T细胞破坏增多及体内IL-7等细胞因子水平紊乱等。目前,对免疫重建不良尚未有成熟有效的干预措施,及早开始HAART治疗是预防免疫重建不良的关键,其余各种干预措施也在一定程度上改善了HIV/AIDS患者的免疫重建状态。然而,免疫重建不良的机制尚未完全清楚,目前尚未找到行之有效的解决方法,在攻克艾滋病的道路上,免疫重建不良仍然是一个重要的研究领域。

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