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不同化疗药物对结肠癌细胞获得性 TRAIL 基因耐药的逆转作用 *

朱洪波¹, 卓文莹¹, 何超^{1△}, 黄学锋¹, 朱玉萍¹, 王达¹, 方炳良²(¹ 浙江大学医学院附属邵逸夫医院肛肠外科, 临床医学研究所, 浙江 杭州 310016; ² 美国 M. D. Anderson 癌症中心)

[摘要] 目的:探讨不同化疗药物对结肠癌 DLD1 细胞获得性 TRAIL 基因耐药的逆转作用及其可能的机制。方法:将不同化疗药物联合重组腺病毒载体(Ad)介导的 TRAIL 基因处理对 Ad/gTRAIL 耐药的结肠癌 DLD1 – TRAIL/R 细胞,通过 MTT 法检测治疗后肿瘤细胞的存活率,以评价化疗药物对 TRAIL 基因耐药的逆转作用;然后进一步在体内评价该逆转策略的有效性;接着通过 Western 免疫印迹等方法探讨逆转耐药的可能机制。结果:在体外检测了 5-氟尿嘧啶、丝裂霉素、阿霉素、氟脲苷、依立替康以及顺铂 6 种化疗药物对 DLD1 – TRAIL/R 细胞 TRAIL 基因耐药的逆转作用,结果发现只有 5-氟尿嘧啶和丝裂霉素能够使 DLD1 – TRAIL/R 细胞对 Ad/gTRAIL 重新敏感。进一步的结果表明联合 5-氟尿嘧啶和 Ad/gTRAIL 能在体内有效地抑制 DLD1 – TRAIL/R 细胞来源的肿瘤生长,且该抑制作用明显强于其它对照组。结论:联合使用 Ad/gTRAIL 和 5-氟尿嘧啶或丝裂霉素能在体内外有效地逆转 DLD1 – TRAIL/R 细胞对 TRAIL 基因的获得性耐药,其中丝裂霉素的逆转作用可能与其诱导的 Bax 过度表达有关。

[关键词] 基因, TRAIL; 结肠肿瘤; 药物疗法

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Effects of different chemotherapeutic agents on reversing the acquired resistance to TRAIL gene in DLD1 colon cancer cells

ZHU Hong-bo¹, ZHUO Wen-ying¹, HE Chao¹, HUANG Xue-feng¹, ZHU Yu-ping¹, WANG Da¹, FANG Bing-liang²(¹ Department of Colorectal Surgery, Sir Run Run Shaw Hospital, Zhejiang University, Hangzhou 310016, China. E-mail: drhe@zju.edu.cn; ² M. D. Anderson Cancer Center, Houston, USA)

[ABSTRACT] AIM: To evaluate effects of different chemotherapeutic agents on reversing the acquired resistance to TRAIL gene and clarify the involved mechanisms in DLD1 – TRAIL/R colon cancer cells. METHODS: Human colon cancer cell line DLD1 – TRAIL/R cells that were resistant to TRAIL-expressing adenovector (Ad/gTRAIL) were treated with Ad/gTRAIL combined with different chemotherapeutic agents. Then, the cell viability was measured by MTT method, and apoptotic signaling conditions, including activation of caspase-3 and caspase-8, expression of Bax and Bcl-XL, were measured by Western blotting analysis. RESULTS: *In vitro* data showed that several chemotherapeutic agents, including 5-fluorouracil (5-FU) and mitomycin c (MMC), overcome the acquired resistance to TRAIL gene in DLD1 – TRAIL/R colon cancer cells. The combination of Ad/gTRAIL and 5-FU effectively suppressed tumor growth *in vivo* in subcutaneous tumors established from DLD1 – TRAIL/R cells. Further data showed that treatment with the combination of Ad/gTRAIL and 5-FU or MMC led to enhance the activation of caspase-3. Moreover, MMC but not 5-FU induced overexpression of Bax gene that was sufficient to overcome the resistance to TRAIL gene in DLD1 – TRAIL/R cells. CONCLUSION: Chemotherapeutic agents, such as 5-FU and MMC, overcome the acquired resistance to TRAIL gene in DLD1 – TRAIL/R cells. The candidate mechanisms for MMC but not 5-FU to overcome this resistance might involve the induction of over-expressed Bax protein in DLD1 – TRAIL/R cells.

[KEY WORDS] Genes, TRAIL; Colonic neoplasms; Drug therapy

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△通讯作者 E-mail: drhe@zju.edu.cn

耐药是肿瘤治疗失败的主要原因,最近用肿瘤坏死因子相关的凋亡诱导配体(*TRAIL*)治疗恶性肿瘤时也面临着耐药的困扰。研究显示部分肿瘤天然对*TRAIL*蛋白耐药,某些敏感的肿瘤经*TRAIL*反复处理后也能产生耐药^[1,2]。尽管研究显示该耐药可能与某些信号分子如 caspase - 8、bcl - 2 或 XIAP 的改变有关^[3-5],但其具体机制目前尚不清楚。

有研究显示化疗、基因治疗以及放疗等均能有效放大*TRAIL*蛋白诱导的凋亡^[6-9]。由于*TRAIL*蛋白耐药的肿瘤细胞对*TRAIL*基因治疗仍然敏感^[10],而反复用*TRAIL*基因处理肿瘤细胞后也能产生耐药^[1],这提示*TRAIL*基因耐药和*TRAIL*蛋白耐药发生在不同的水平,关于*TRAIL*蛋白的逆转策略也许不适用于*TRAIL*基因耐药。

为明确化疗药物在逆转肿瘤获得性*TRAIL*基因耐药中的作用,我们将评价数种化疗药物在DLD1 - *TRAIL*/R细胞中的作用,并探讨其可能机制。

材料和方法

1 材料

1.1 细胞株和细胞培养 实验采用的人大肠癌细胞株 DLD1 和 DLD1 - *TRAIL*/R(*TRAIL*耐受的细胞株)为本实验室所保存。DLD1 - *TRAIL*/R细胞由对*TRAIL*敏感的DLD1亲代细胞经重组腺病毒Ad/*gTRAIL*反复处理后得到。细胞培养采用 RPMI - 1640 培养液,含 5% 灭活小牛血清、1% 谷氨酰胺、1% 抗生素。在 37 °C、5% CO₂ 的温箱中培养。

1.2 重组腺病毒和化疗药物 腺病毒载体 Ad/*gTRAIL*、Ad/*GFP*、Ad/*PGK-GV16* 及 Ad/*GT-bax* 由美国得克萨斯州安德森癌症中心方炳良教授惠赠。顺铂、氟尿苷、盐酸依立替康、阿霉素、5 - 氟脲嘧啶(5 - FU)及丝裂霉素(MMC)由浙江省邵逸夫医院药房提供。重组人*TRAIL*蛋白从美国 R&D 公司购买(Minneapolis, MN, USA)。

1.3 主要试剂和仪器 MTT 试剂(Amresco),ECL 试剂盒(Amersham Bioscience),兔抗人 Bax、Bcl - XL、Bcl - 2、caspase - 3 抗体(Santa Cruz Biotechnology),兔抗人 caspase - 8 抗体(BD Bioscience),倒置显微镜(Leica),自动酶联检测仪(Bio - Rad),CO₂ 恒温孵箱,低温高速离心机(Heraeus)。

2 方法

2.1 细胞活性测定 细胞活性由 MTT 法测定。在 96 孔板每孔内种 1×10^4 个 DLD1 - *TRAIL*/R 细胞过夜后,按 1 000 个病毒颗粒/细胞(MOI)的剂量感染各组腺病毒,和/或化疗药物(0.086 - 50 μmol/L),

在上述处理 96 h 后再用 MTT 法检测细胞存活率。

2.2 Western 免疫印迹分析 处理后的细胞用冷 PBS 液洗涤并在 Laemmli's 裂解液中溶解,取等量蛋白,通过 10% 十二烷基硫酸钠 - 聚丙烯酰胺凝胶电泳分离,并转移到 PVDF 膜上,用 5% 脱脂牛奶和 0.05% PBST 液缓冲 1 h 后,在常温下与相应的 I 抗作用至少 1 h,之后 0.05% PBST 液洗涤 3 次,并加入相应 II 抗在室温下培育 1 h,最后用 ECL 试剂盒进行检测。

2.3 动物实验 以浙江大学医学院动物实验中心的有关规定为指导,在每只裸鼠的背侧皮下接种 5×10^6 个 DLD1 - *TRAIL*/R 细胞,当皮下肿瘤形成并且直径达 3 - 5 mm 时,开始用 Ad/*gTRAIL* 和 5 - FU 进行联合治疗,同时以 Ad/*GFP* 作为载体对照,PBS 作为空白对照。5 - FU 以 20 mg/kg 的剂量连续 5 d 从鼠尾静脉注射,Ad/*gTRAIL* 则以隔天 1 次,每次 5×10^{10} 病毒颗粒,总共 3 次进行肿瘤内注射。每 4 d 测量 1 次肿瘤大小,并以 $a \times b^2 \times 0.5$ 的公式计算肿瘤体积(*a* 为最大直径,*b* 为最小直径),连续 4 周内检测肿瘤大小,当肿瘤长至直径 1.5 cm 时处死小鼠。

3 统计学处理

各处理组间的差异采用非配对的 *t* 检验来评估。

结 果

1 联合使用 5 - FU 或 MMC 能使 DLD1 - *TRAIL*/R 细胞对 *TRAIL* 重新敏感

我们检测了 Ad/*gTRAIL* 联合 5 - FU、MMC、依立替康、顺铂、氟尿苷或者阿霉素对 DLD1 - *TRAIL*/R 细胞的作用,结果显示单独给予 Ad/*gTRAIL* 对 DLD1 - *TRAIL*/R 细胞没有明显的杀伤作用(*P* > 0.05,图 1),而联合用药后除顺铂外,5 - FU、MMC、依立替康、氟尿苷以及阿霉素在一定的浓度下均能显著增强 Ad/*gTRAIL* 对 DLD1 - *TRAIL*/R 细胞的杀伤作用,尤其是当 MMC 浓度达到 1.25 μmol/L,5 - FU 浓度达到 50 μmol/L 时,细胞杀伤效果更加明显(*P* < 0.05,图 1)。与此同时,单独给予化疗药物组与化疗药物联合 Ad/*GFP* 组两者细胞存活率没有显著差异(*P* > 0.05,图 1)。

2 联合 Ad/*gTRAIL* 和 5 - FU 能在体内加强对肿瘤的抑制作用

由于 5 - FU 是目前结肠癌化疗中最为常见的药物,因此我们进一步检测了联合 Ad/*gTRAIL* 和 5 - FU 在裸鼠皮下肿瘤模型中的治疗效果。结果表明,联合使用 5 - FU 和 Ad/*gTRAIL* 能有效地抑制

DLD1 - TRAIL/R 细胞来源的肿瘤生长,且该组抑制作用要明显强于其它处理组($P < 0.05$,图 2)。而 Ad/gTRAIL 组,5 - FU 组和 5 - FU + Ad/GFP 组的肿

瘤生长水平基本相近,均稍滞后于 PBS 组,但这一差距没有显著意义($P > 0.05$,图 2)。

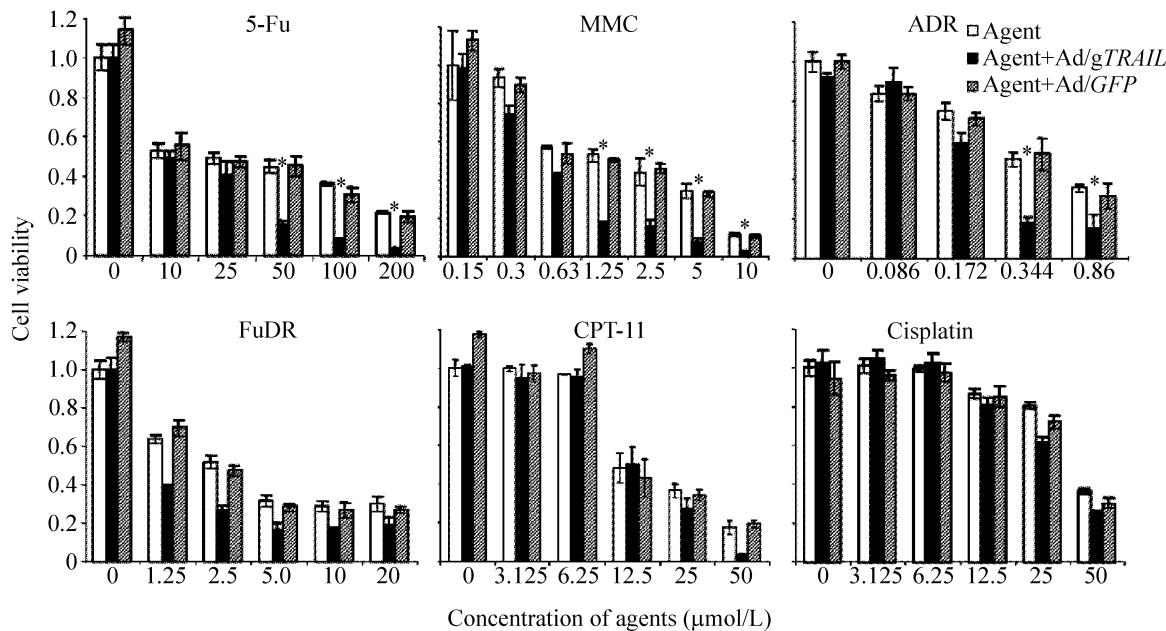


Fig 1 Combination effects of Ad/gTRAIL and several chemotherapeutic agents in DLD1 - TRAIL/R cells. Ad/GFP was used as a vector control, and cells were treated with viruses at an MOI of 1 000 viral particles/cell. Chemotherapeutic agent concentrations are shown at the base of each graph. Cell viability was determined 96 h after treatment. Data presented are the $\bar{x} \pm s$ of quadruplet assays. * $P < 0.05$ vs agent + Ad/GFP group.

图 1 联合 Ad/gTRAIL 和数个化疗药物在 DLD1 - TRAIL/R 细胞的治疗作用

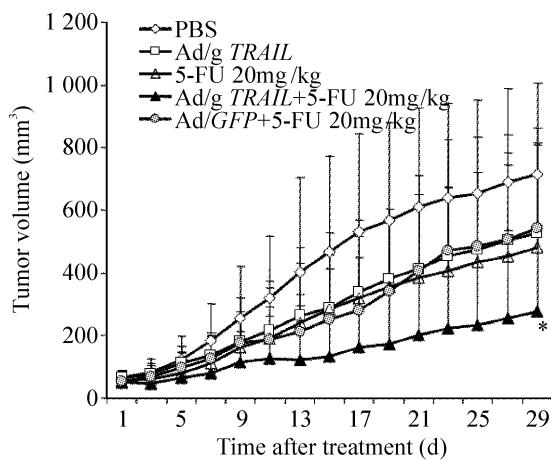


Fig 2 5 - FU enhanced TRAIL - induced tumor growth suppression *in vivo*. Subcutaneous tumors derived from DLD1 - TRAIL/R cells were treated with various agents as shown. Tumor volumes were monitored over time after treatment. Values represent the $\bar{x} \pm s$ of 10 - mice groups. Note that the result of treatment with the combination of 5 - FU and Ad/gTRAIL differed significantly from those of all other treatment groups. * $P < 0.05$ vs all other groups.

图 2 联合 Ad/gTRAIL 和 5 - FU 能在体内加强对肿瘤的抑制作用

3 联合化疗药物时 DLD1 - TRAIL/R 细胞在凋亡信号上的变化

细胞经联合用药处理后,以 Western 免疫印迹法检测 caspase - 3 和 caspase - 8 的活化状态,其中 5 - FU 浓度为 $200 \mu\text{mol/L}$, MMC 浓度为 $10 \mu\text{mol/L}$ 。实验结果表明,单用 1 000MOI 的 Ad/gTRAIL 处理亲代 DLD1 细胞能完全激活 caspase - 8 和 caspase - 3,而在单用 5 - FU、MMC 或 Ad/gTRAIL 处理的 DLD1 - TRAIL/R 细胞中,caspase - 8 和 caspase - 3 都没有被激活(图 3)。不过在 Ad/gTRAIL 联合 5 - FU 或 MMC 后,即可检测到 caspase - 3 的裂解活性形式,但在 Ad/gCMV - GFP 联合 5 - FU 或 MMC 处理的细胞中,caspase - 3 的裂解现象却明显减弱或消失(图 3)。

4 MMC 通过诱导 Bax 的过度表达来加强 TRAIL 介导的细胞凋亡

本实验还通过 Western 免疫印迹法检测 MMC 或 5 - FU 处理后 Bax 和 Bcl - XL 的表达情况。如图 4 所示,使用 MMC 后能引起 Bax 的表达明显增加而 Bcl - XL 的水平却有所下降,对该结果进行定量分析后发现 MMC 处理后 Bax/Bcl - XL 的比例显著提高(图 5A)。为进一步验证 MMC 诱导的 Bax 过度表达在耐药逆转中的作用,我们用总量 1 000 MOI 的双腺病毒

载体系统将 Bax 基因转染至 DLD1 - TRAIL/R 细胞中, 12 h 后加入浓度为 100 $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$ 的 TRAIL 蛋白, 再过 24 h 后检测细胞活性, 结果显示联合使用 Bax 和 TRAIL 明显促进了 DLD1 - TRAIL/R 细胞的凋亡(图 5B, $P < 0.01$)。

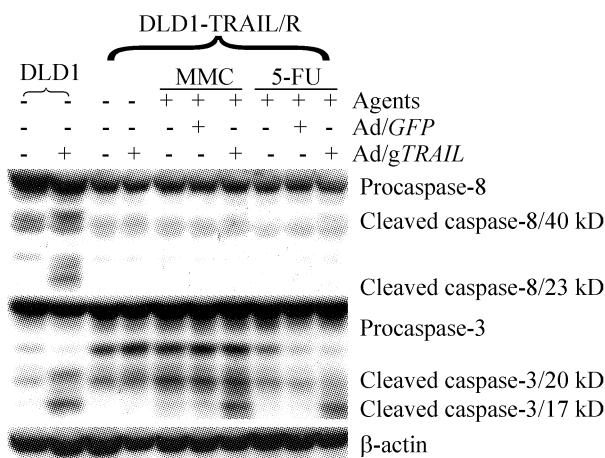


Fig 3 Effects of Ad/gTRAIL plus mitomycin or 5 - FU on caspase - 8 and caspase - 3 in DLD1 - TRAIL/R cells. DLD - 1 parental cells were used as a positive control. Cells were treated for 3 days. The concentrations of mitomycin and 5 - FU were 10 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$ and 200 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$, respectively. Adenovector dose was an MOI of 1 000 viral particles/cells. The Ad/GFP was used as a vector control. Treatments are listed above each lane.

图 3 Ad/gTRAIL 联合 5 - FU 或 MMC 处理 DLD1 - TRAIL/R 细胞后 caspase - 8 和 caspase - 3 的活化

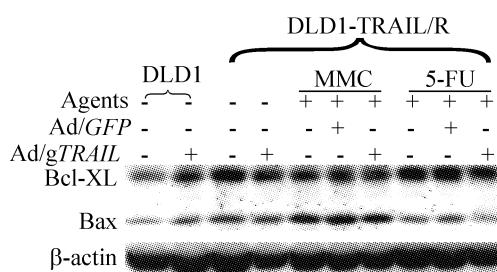


Fig 4 Effects of Ad/gTRAIL plus mitomycin or 5 - FU on Bcl - XL and Bax in DLD1 - TRAIL/R cells. DLD - 1 parental cells were used as a positive control. Cells were treated for 3 days. The concentrations of mitomycin and 5 - FU were 10 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$ and 200 $\mu\text{mol}/\text{L}$, respectively. Adenovector dose was an MOI of 1 000 viral particles/cells. The Ad/GFP was used as a vector control. Treatments are listed above each lane.

图 4 Ad/gTRAIL 联合 5 - FU 或 MMC 处理 DLD1 - TRAIL/R 细胞后 Bax 和 Bcl - XL 的表达

讨 论

在本实验中联合使用 5 - FU 或 MMC 后, TRAIL

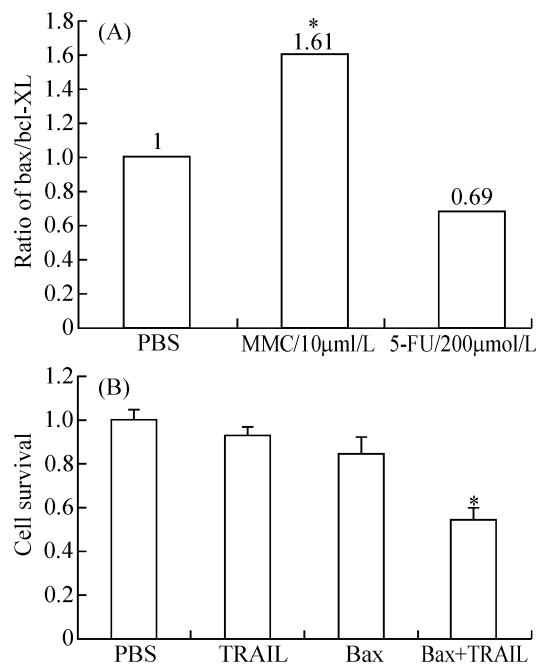


Fig 5 Effect of bax gene expression in DLD1 - TRAIL/R cells. A: the ratio of Bax/Bcl - XL in DLD1 - TRAIL/R cells after various treatments. The results were quantitative data for Fig 4; B: combined effects of treatment with TRAIL protein and *bax* - expressing adenovector. The treatments are shown at the base of the graphs. Ad/GT - Bax and Ad/PGK - CV16 were used at total MOI of 400 viral particles/cells. TRAIL was used at a dose of 100 $\mu\text{g}/\text{L}$. Viability of cells treated with *bax* plus TRAIL was significantly lower than in other treated cells. * $P < 0.01$ vs all other groups.

图 5 在 DLD1 - TRAIL/R 细胞中高表达 *bax* 的作用

的细胞杀伤作用明显增强,且能检测到 caspase - 3 的裂解,而单独应用 Ad/gTRAIL 或化疗药物,均无明显的凋亡现象,且无 caspase - 3 和 caspase - 8 的活化,表明了上述药物与 Ad/gTRAIL 的联合作用是通过激活 caspase 途径实现的。但需要指出的是,在这过程中 TRAIL 如何传递死亡信号的机制仍不明确,我们不能排除 caspase - 8 被激活至一个现有仪器无法检测的低水平浓度,但该浓度已足够与化疗药物产生协同作用,又或者 TRAIL 通过其它途径转导死亡信号来诱导细胞凋亡。

在实验中我们还发现 MMC 在增强 TRAIL 介导的细胞凋亡的同时,能够诱导 Bax 的表达明显增加以及 Bcl - XL 表达的下降,并且我们进一步的实验还显示过度表达 Bax 能逆转 DLD1 - TRAIL/R 细胞对 Ad/gTRAIL 的获得性耐药。因此我们认为 MMC 对耐药的逆转作用与其诱导的 Bax/Bcl - XL 比值升高有关,这一结果和其它报道是相符的^[11,12]。

然而,我们发现 5 - FU 并不能诱导 Bax 的过表

达,由此证明,5-FU 通过不同于 MMC 的其它途径致敏 DLD1-TRAIL/R 细胞。在对 TRAIL 耐药的乳癌细胞联合使用化疗药物,能通过上调 DR-4 和/或 DR-5 来逆转耐药^[13],但在本实验中 5-FU 并没有改变 DLD1-TRAIL/R 细胞中 DR-5 以及 DR-4 的表达水平(数据未列出),因此 5-FU 逆转 DLD1-TRAIL/R 细胞的耐药可能存在其它未知的机制。

综上所述,尽管 TRAIL 基因耐药的机制目前尚不明确,本实验的结果表明联合应用 Ad/gTRAIL 和化疗药物能有效地逆转结肠癌细胞对 TRAIL 基因的获得性耐药,这一结果将为结肠癌的生物治疗提供一个新策略,也为进一步探索 TRAIL 基因联合不同药物治疗结肠癌的临床应用提供了新的前景和希望。

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