

·药学前言·

药物转运蛋白在药物吸收、分布和排泄中的作用及对新药研发的意义

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【摘要】介绍了药物转运蛋白(drug transporter)在药物处置过程中的作用, 探讨了其在新药开发中应用的可能性。通过对药物转运蛋白功能的了解和利用, 可以增加口服药物的生物利用度, 开发出对某些器官有靶向性的药物, 或避免药物分布到某些器官中, 从而提高药物的疗效, 降低其的毒副作用; 也可以控制药物的消除速度。在药物研发过程中可以通过两种手段达到上述目的, 一是根据需要选择与某些转运蛋白有作用或没有作用的先导化合物, 另一个侧是使用转运蛋白抑制剂。在药物研发的初始阶段就开始重视其药动学特性, 这一观念近年来已被很多人所接受。对转运蛋白的深入认识和利用, 建立研究药物转运特性的有效方法, 在药物开发过程中将具有非常重要的意义。

【关键词】 药物转运蛋白; 药物靶向性; P-糖蛋白; 多药耐药蛋白; 多药耐药相关蛋白; 有机阴离子转运蛋白; 有机阳离子转运蛋白; 有机阴离子转运肽; 寡肽转运蛋白

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很久以前人们就知道药物在体内的吸收、分布和排泄过程通常是由转运蛋白参与完成的。近年来随着分子生物学技术的发展和应用, 存在于人体器官或组织中的转运蛋白的分子结构和功能正逐步被人们所认识。按功能可将目前已发现的转运蛋白分为以下几类: 1. 多药耐药蛋白(Multidrug Resistance Protein, MDR), 其中的MDR1等又称为P-糖蛋白(P-gp), 这类转运蛋白广泛存在于肠壁、胆管、肾小管、血脑屏障和肿瘤组织中, 其作用是加速药物从这些组织的外排; 2. 多药耐药相关蛋白(Multidrug Resistance-associated Protein, MRP), 其作用与MDR类似, 但两者的底物类型有所不同; 3. 有机阴离子转运蛋白(OAT), 主要参与肝细胞摄取和肾小管分泌等; 4. 有机阴离子转运肽(OATP); 5. 有机阳离子转运蛋白(OCT); 6. 寡肽转运蛋白(PEPT)等。后几类转运蛋白的作用主要是促进药物向细胞内的转运, 在药物吸收或重吸收, 药物向组织转运等方面起重要作用。以下分别从吸收、分布和转运三方面阐述转运蛋白的作用, 并对其在新药设计方面的指导作用进行说明。

1 转运蛋白在药物吸收中的作用

肠黏膜中存在许多种转运蛋白, 它们在营养物质或内源性化合物及药物吸收过程中起着十分重要的作用^[1]。如小肠中的起吸收作用的转运蛋白寡肽转运蛋白1(PEPT1)和阴离子转运肽B(OATP-B)等就可以增加药物的吸收。

药物外排型转运蛋白, 例如P-gp等, 分布在肠黏膜上皮细胞部位, 功能是将底物分泌至肠腔中, 其作用是限制药物的吸收^[2-3]。

P-gp在许多药物的吸收过程中起着很重要的作用^[6-7], 是因为它的底物种类范围很广, 例如小肠中P-gp的含量和地高辛口服给药后的AUC有显著相关性, 这说明肠黏膜上皮细胞中P-gp的量决定了地高辛口服给药后的血药浓度^[8]。在另一个试验中发现, tacrolimus口服后的血药浓度与肠黏膜MDR1的表达量有良好的相关性^[9]。除了P-gp之外, MRP在肠壁细胞中也可能存在着类似的作用, 从而影响某些药物的吸收^[10]。MRP2可以转运谷胱甘肽结合物、葡萄糖醛酸结合物或非结合型有机阴离子化合物, 所以它在肠道分泌许多药物或它

们代谢物的过程中起着重要作用^[1]。ME3299 是一种酯型前体化合物, 酯化的目的是为了改善羧酸类药物的口服生物利用度。然而它的生物利用度并不高(在大鼠中小于 10%), 经研究发现, 这是因为其在体内转为羧基化合物后很容易被分泌至肠腔中^[12]。另一个试验证明, 转运蛋白 BCRP 在临幊上对一些重要药物肠壁细胞分泌中起着关键作用, 例如: 使用 BCRP 抑制剂, GF120918 可以增加 topotecan 的生物利用度。该试验使用了 P-gp 缺陷大鼠, 所以不存在 P-gp 对 topotecan 吸收的干扰。GF120918 减少了 topotecan 的血浆清除率和肝胆排泄, 并且增加了小肠对该药的吸收^[13]。从理论上来讲抑制小肠的外排性转运蛋白是联合用药中增加口服生物利用度的一种有效途径。

2 在组织分布中的作用

2.1 利用转运蛋白的功能增加药物向靶组织的转运

利用不同组织对药物转运蛋白表达的选择性, 是一种很有发展前途的增加药物靶向性的方法, 例如对普伐他丁来说它的转运蛋白存在于口服吸收、肝摄取和胆排泄过程中, 由于这种 HMG-CoA 还原酶抑制剂的靶器官是肝脏, 肠肝循环的存在是一种有利的药动学特征, 可以增加药物疗效并减少其副作用^[14]。虽然普伐他丁的药动学性质已经被研究清楚, 但在涉及同类药物分子时, 也应该让新的化合物具备同样的药动学特征。目前人们已经认识到, 利用肿瘤组织中 PEPT1 可以成功地设计出一些具有肿瘤组织靶向作用的抗癌药。由于 PEPT1 在小肠中也存在, 所以也可以用来增加抗癌药物的吸收程度。相反, 靶组织中外排型转运蛋白的存在, 往往是药物向靶组织转运差的主要原因。

P-gp 在大脑毛细血管上皮细胞和肿瘤细胞中大量存在, 从而阻滞了许多药物进入这些组织。从这个角度来讲, 筛选一些不被 P-gp 转运的化合物, 是增加抗癌药物或中枢神经药物疗效的一种方法^[15]。利用特殊阻断剂来阻断药物外排作用也是一种增加药物向靶组织分布的有效方法, 由于 P-gp 或 MRP 在肿瘤细胞表面的过度表达引起多种药物的耐受性, 使用化学调节剂抑制这种外排转运作用, 已被用于克服药物的耐受性, 目前已发现了数个 P-gp 抑制剂并正在用于临床试验^[16]。然而, P-

gp 调节剂也会增加抗癌药物对脑组织的通透性, 从而引起中枢神经反应。此外对 P-gp 的阻断作用也可以对增加 HIV 蛋白酶抑制剂 HIV-PI 的活性。P-gp 可以降低 HIV-PI 的治疗作用, 是因为 P-gp 不仅存在于淋巴细胞, 也存在于大脑和睾丸中, 它们是 HIV 作用或生存的场所, P-gp 可以限制 HIV-PI 向这些组织的分布^[17]。另一个更严重的问题是胎盘中的 P-gp 可以限制 HIV-PI 向胎儿的转运, 从而降低在 HIV 阳性的怀孕病人的疗效。此外小肠中的 P-gp 还会降低 HIV-PI 的生物利用度^[18]。所以, 人们希望通过使用高效的 P-gp 抑制剂来增加 HIV-PI 向上述组织的分布并增加口服生物利用度。曾有试验证明同时服用 ritonavir 可以显著增加 saquinavir 的口服生物利用度, 这是因为 ritonavir 不仅是 CYP3A 的抑制剂, 而且是 P-gp 的抑制剂, 目前人们正在进行临床试验以证明其是否有效和是否安全。

2.2 利用转运蛋白的功能避免药物的毒性

利用外排型转运蛋白来减少药物向脑组织的分布, 可以减轻有中枢毒性药物的不良反应^[19]。例如一些喹诺酮类抗菌药和一些抗癌药在大脑中分布较少, 尽管这些药物具有较高的脂溶性, 但 P-gp 可以阻止它们进入大脑, 所以这些药物中枢神经方面的副作用较少。在 P-gp 缺陷大鼠中这些药物向脑组织中的分布十分明显。这说明上述推断是正确的, 也证实了利用转运蛋白基因缺陷大鼠是研究药物转运蛋白对药物在体内处置作用的有用方法^[20]。利用外排型转运蛋白可以减轻中枢神经方面的毒性, 在药物开发过程中, 可以根据需要, 选择与脑外排型转运蛋白有作用的化合物。

然而, 主动转运有时也会导致肾毒性, 例如有机阴离子转运蛋白-1(OAT1)主要在肾脏表达, 在肾小管分泌带负电荷分子的过程中起主要作用^[21]。一些抗病毒药、β-内酰胺抗生素和 Ochratoxina 可以被 OAT1 有效的转运, 结果导致这些药物在肾小管积累。与 OAT 有作用的化合物由于会引起肾毒性, 所以有时要选择不被这一载体转运的药物或同时服用它的抑制剂来避免类似毒性的发生^[22]。例如, 有人认为非载体抗炎药可以减低 adefovir 的肾毒性, 这是因为非载体抗炎药可以有效抑制 OAT1 对 adefovir 的转运作用^[23]。

尽管 irinotecan(CPT-11)是一种有效的抗癌药,

但它有很严重的胃肠道毒性^[24], 临幊上可引起腹泻。它的活性代谢物 SN-38 对胃肠细胞的作用被认为是产生这一毒性的原因, SN-38 和 SN-38 葡萄糖醛酸结合物经胆排泄后被消化道上皮细胞吸收可能是导致这一毒性的原因^[25]。MRP1/2! 参与 SN38 和 SN38 葡萄糖醛酸结合物的胆排泌, 所以 MRP1/2! 阻断剂可以减少它们的胆排泄, 并降低这种对消化道上皮细胞的毒性^[26]。

3 利用药物转运蛋白控制药物的消除

在肝脏的窦状小管和胆管膜上存在多种转运蛋白, 它们在肝脏排泄中起着十分重要的作用^[27]。在肾脏 basolateral 和 luminal 的膜上药物转运蛋白也参与了肾脏对药物的主动分泌^[28]。如果一种治疗肾病的药通过尿液排泄, 那么病人之间的血药浓度就可能会有很大差异, 这取决于患者的肾功能状态。如果一种药物是通过肝、肾等多种途径消除的, 那么它的药动学性质比单一消除途径要稳定的多。比如 ACE 抑制剂 Temocaprilat 是一种典型的多途径消除药物, 经肝代谢和肾脏排泄, 所以与其它 ACE 抑制剂相比, 可避免在病人中药动学性质有大的变异。其它 ACE 抑制剂主要经肾脏排泄, 在肾衰病人中其它 ACE 抑制剂(如依那普利)的 AUC 显著增加, 但 temocaprilat 在这些病人中的 AUC 变化不明显^[29]。temocaprilat 在胆分泌中主要通过 MRP2 完成的, 其它的 AEC 抑制剂与 MRP2 的亲和力则较弱^[30]。

药物转运蛋白的表达在肝脏和肾脏是有选择性的, 例如 OATP2 和 OATP8 仅在肝脏表达, 它们在肝脏对各种药物摄取中起关键作用^[31, 32]。OCT1 主要在肝脏表达而 OAT1 主要在肾脏表达^[21, 33]。在药物开发过程中可通过膜转运蛋白的作用来选择药物消除途径。

综上所述, 药物转运蛋白在药物的吸收、分布和消除中起着重要的作用。临幊上利用转运蛋白的作用性质可提高药物疗效, 避免药物的不良反应。在新药研究过程中, 利用转运蛋白的转基因细胞建立高通量药物筛选系统, 将对定向药物设计, 缩短药物研发周期等起到积极的促进作用。

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The Role of Transporters in the Drug Absorption, Distribution and Elimination and its Significance in the New Drug Development

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【ABSTRACT】 The effects of drug transporters on the drug disposition were introduced and the possible utility in the developing of new drugs was discussed. The properties of the transporters can be used to increase the bioavailability of the drugs, to deliver the drug to the target organ or avoid distribution to other organs, thereby increase the therapeutic effects and reduce the chance of toxic effects. Furthermore, they can also be used to control the elimination speed of the compounds. There are two methods can be utilized to reach the purposes described as above, one is selecting a leading compound does or does not interact with special transporters, another is the use of inhibitors of some transporters. It is well accepted in recent years that the pharmacokinetic properties of a drug should be studied in its early stage of development. High-throughput screening systems established bases on transporters will be an efficient tools in the new drug developments.

【KEY WORDS】 Drug transporter; Drug targeting; P-gp; MDR; MRP; OAT; CAT; OATP; PEPT