

研究论文

隐睾小鼠与正常成年小鼠睾丸蛋白表达谱的差异分析

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摘要: 为使精原干细胞(spermatogonial stem cells, SSCs)在体外大量扩增, 需要阐明 SSCs 自增殖机制。为筛选 SSCs 自增殖相关因子, 探索 SSCs 自增殖机制, 本研究选取 10 日龄昆明乳鼠行隐睾手术, 术后 35 d 分别取小鼠两侧睾丸。组织学分析结果显示, 实验性隐睾中生殖细胞的分化停滞在精母细胞阶段, 且只有少量的精母细胞出现, 精原细胞的比例高于正常成年雄性小鼠(45 日龄)。应用双向凝胶电泳分析隐睾小鼠与正常成年小鼠睾丸差异表达蛋白。结果显示, 与正常成年小鼠相比, 隐睾小鼠睾丸中有 9 种蛋白表达发生了显著变化, 其中 6 种蛋白表达下调, 3 种上调。对 9 种差异表达蛋白点胶内酶切后进行质谱分析, 其中 4 种蛋白分别鉴定为磷脂酰乙醇胺结合蛋白 1 (phosphatidylethanolamine-binding protein1, PEBP1), HES-related basic helix-loop-helix protein (HERP), Stathmin 蛋白和一种未命名蛋白。本研究通过制作有效的隐睾动物模型, 运用蛋白组学的技术方法, 成功筛选并鉴定了 4 种隐睾相关蛋白, 有助于探讨 SSCs 自增殖及隐睾引起雄性不育的机制。

关键词: 隐睾; 小鼠; 蛋白表达谱

中图分类号: Q51

Differential analysis of proteomic profiles between cryptorchid and normal mouse testes

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Abstract: To screen factors related to spermatogonial stem cell (SSC) proliferation, and to investigate the mechanism of infertility caused by cryptorchidism, ten-day-old Kunming (KM) mice were used and experimental cryptorchidism was conducted. On the 35th day after cryptorchid operation, the left testes were fixed in Bouin's fluid and used for histological analysis. The testes of 45-day-old mice were subjected to the same histological analysis, and it was found that they contained germ cells at every stage of development, from SSCs to sperm, indicating that the animals were fully sexually mature at this age. While in experimental cryptorchid mice, the spermatogenesis was arrested at the stage of spermatocytes, and only spermatogonia and primary spermatocytes were present in cryptorchid testes. The proportion of spermatogonia to other types of germ cells was much higher than that in sexually mature mice. On the other hand, the right testes were used for proteomic analysis. The total protein in testes was extracted on the 35th day after cryptorchid operation. The differentially expressed proteins in cryptorchid mice and sexually mature mice were screened and compared by the proteomic techniques. Through the separation of two-dimensional gel electrophoresis (2-DE), 20 differential protein spots were found, and 9 of them were digested and identified by the matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization-time of flight (MALDI-TOF) mass spectrum. In cryptorchid mice, 6 out of 9 proteins were down-regulated, and 3 were up-regulated. Among these proteins, 4 proteins were identified, and they were Stathmin, phosphatidylethanolamine-binding protein1 (PEBP1), HES-related basic helix-loop-helix

Received 2006-12-29 Accepted 2007-02-08

This work was supported by the National Natural Science Foundation of China (No. 30471246).

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protein (HERP), and one unnamed protein (we temporarily named it Px). More Stathmin, PEBP1 and Px were expressed in sexually mature mice than in experimental cryptorchid mice. But HERP1 was the other way round. In the present study, we have screened 4 proteins related to cryptorchidism. It is helpful to study the mechanism of SSC proliferation and infertility caused by cryptorchidism.

Key words: cryptorchidism; mice; protein expression profile

近年来,运用转基因和移植等技术生产了转基因动物^[1],显示了精原干细胞(spermatogonial stem cells, SSCs)广阔的应用前景^[1,2]。然而,睾丸组织中SSCs数量极少,成年小鼠睾丸中干细胞仅占0.01%~0.02%^[2]。但研究与应用需要更多、更纯、生物学上更安全的SSCs,以提高移植后的克隆效率和安全性。因此,SSCs体外规模化扩增培养或建系一直受到重视。本研究组和其它一些实验室都进行了SSCs体外培养的探索,获得了重要进展^[1,3-7],但SSCs的批量扩增问题仍未解决。目前亟待解决的问题是阐明SSCs自增殖的机制。睾丸内SSCs自增殖和分化过程非常复杂,受众多复杂因素的调控。虽有报道表明,GDNF、Plzf等因子对SSCs自增殖起关键作用^[4,8],但SSCs增殖的调控机制远未明了。已有报道表明,隐睾小鼠中生殖细胞的分化生精过程被阻滞在精原细胞阶段,同时SSCs自增殖加快^[9]。本研究采用蛋白组学的方法,筛选隐睾小鼠和正常成年小鼠睾丸内差异表达蛋白,以期找到SSCs自增殖相关因子,为阐明SSCs自增殖机制奠定基础。

1 材料与方 法

1.1 动物及处理 10日龄雄性昆明乳鼠20只,随机分为两组。第1组10只,行隐睾手术。具体方法为:麻醉后背位保定乳鼠,在紧靠外生殖器前方,沿腹中线剪一1 cm左右长的小口,轻轻拉出睾丸,推入腹腔,通过脂肪头固定于腹壁,缝合切口即可。第2组10只,不作任何处理,为对照组。所有乳鼠均随母鼠自由哺乳,室内温度(23±2)℃;光照周期12 h:12 h (7:00~19:00光照)。

1.2 组织学分析 行隐睾手术35 d后(雄性昆明小鼠性成熟期为45 d^[11]),颈椎脱臼法处死小鼠,取小鼠左侧睾丸,Bouin's液固定12 h,50%酒精冲洗3次,每次30 min。梯度酒精脱水,二甲苯透明,石蜡包埋,切片(片厚6 μm,每隔60 μm取一张),行常规HE染色。

1.3 蛋白抽提与定量 行隐睾手术35 d后,颈椎脱臼法处死小鼠,取小鼠右侧睾丸,剥去白膜,迅

速置于液氮中,研碎。加入适量蛋白抽提试剂[8 mol/L尿素,0.02% CHAPS (Sigma公司),20 mmol/L二硫苏糖醇(DTT),1 mmol/L EDTA,1 mmol/L PMSF以及蛋白酶抑制剂混合物]。震荡溶解后,室温孵育1 h,离心(4℃,12 000 g)15 min,取上清,分装保存于-70℃冰箱。蛋白定量采用Bradford法。

1.4 双向电泳 用IPGphor System (Amersham Pharmacia Biotech.)进行第一向等电聚焦。取1 mg蛋白,溶于重泡胀液(8 mol/L尿素、0.02% CHAPS、0.02 mol/L DTT、0.05% IPG缓冲液)。将聚焦后的胶条在SDS平衡液(6 mol/L尿素,2% SDS,1.5 mol/L Tris-HCl, pH 8.8,30%甘油)中平衡2次(摇床上振荡),每次15 min。其中,第一次平衡液中加入20 mmol/L DTT,第二次平衡液中加入100 mmol/L碘乙酰胺。取出胶条在PROTEN II xi Cell上进行垂直方向的第二向电泳,即SDS-聚丙烯酰胺凝胶电泳。恒流40 mA,40 min。置固定液(乙醇和乙酸的混合水溶液,含40%乙醇,10%乙酸)中固定30 min。用0.1%考马斯亮蓝染液R-250进行凝胶染色3 h,脱色过夜。隐睾组和对照组均重复10次。

1.5 图像分析 凝胶采用GS-800 Calibrated Imaging Densitometer (BIO-RAD,美国)扫描成TIFF格式图像(分辨率为300 dpi),然后用ImageMaster 2D platinum software 5.0软件进行差异分析。

1.6 酶切和质谱分析 观察差异蛋白点在凝胶上的原始位置,切下满足下面两个条件的蛋白点进行质谱分析:(1)在10次重复胶上均能找到,且差异显著;(2)无明显拖尾、变形,且完全分离。将蛋白胶粒均匀切碎,置1.5 mL离心管中,用去离子水清洗2次,加入脱色液(50%乙腈,25 mmol/L碳酸氢铵)100 μL,摇床振荡20 min,弃去溶液,重复2次,直至胶片中的蓝色脱尽。真空离心干燥;加入适量胰酶液(0.01 μg/μL,含25 mmol/L碳酸氢铵,5 mmol/L氯化钙),置于4℃冰箱泡胀20~30 min,酶液被完全吸收后,补充5~10 μL酶解缓冲液,37℃过夜(约16 h);离心,吸取1 μL酶解液,与饱和基质溶液α-氰基-4-羟基肉桂酸(α-

cyano-4-hydroxy-cmnamic acid, α -CCA)充分混匀后点靶，进行质谱分析。

1.7 生物信息学分析 登陆NCBI网站(<http://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/Structure/cdd/wrpsb.cgi>)，对质谱分析鉴定的差异表达蛋白进行结构域分析。

2 结果

2.1 组织学分析

睾丸组织学分析显示，45日龄正常雄性昆明小鼠睾丸中，存在从SSCs至精子的各级生精细胞。结果表明，45日龄雄性昆明鼠已性成熟。而实验性隐睾小鼠睾丸中，只存在精母细胞以前阶段的细

胞类型，而且精原细胞的比例较高(图1)。

2.2 隐睾小鼠睾丸蛋白表达谱的变化

10日龄雄性昆明乳鼠进行隐睾手术后第35天，提取睾丸蛋白，与45日龄正常雄性昆明小鼠的睾丸蛋白一起进行双向电泳，其代表性考马斯亮蓝染色电泳图谱见图2。ImageMaster 2D platinum software 5.0软件分析结果表明，平均每块凝胶上可找到500个左右蛋白点。选取45日龄组中一块凝胶作参照，其蛋白点匹配率为89%，隐睾组蛋白点匹配率为87%，保证了良好的重复性。统计隐睾组与对照组之间表达水平上调5倍以上和下调0.2倍以下的蛋白点。共分析了9个差异表达蛋白点，其中6个

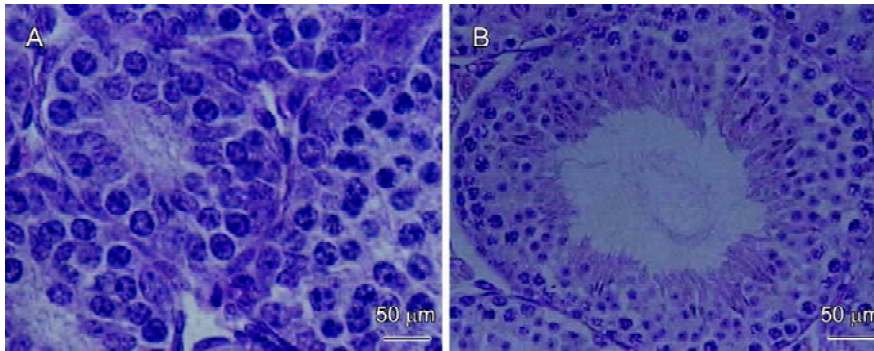


图 1. 隐睾小鼠和正常成年小鼠睾丸组织学分析

Fig.1. HE staining of cryptorchid and sexually mature mouse testes. A: Cryptorchid mice. B: Sexually mature mice. Scale bar, 50 μ m.

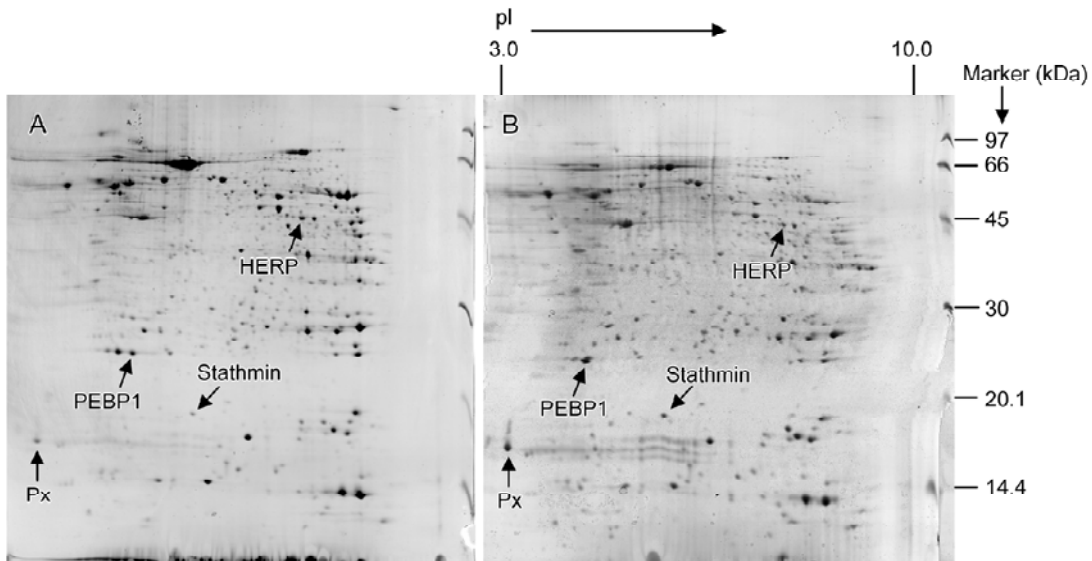


图 2. 隐睾小鼠和正常成年小鼠睾丸蛋白双向电泳图谱比较

Fig.2. Two-dimensional gel electrophoresis of cryptorchid and sexually mature mouse testes proteins. A: Cryptorchid mice. B: Sexually mature mice.

正常成年小鼠睾丸之间9种差异表达蛋白, 质谱分析后, 其中4种蛋白分别鉴定为HERP、PEBP1、Stathmin蛋白和一种未命名蛋白(Px)。HERP在实验性隐睾小鼠睾丸中表达上调, 其余三种蛋白表达下调。

HERP家族蛋白是Notch主要的靶蛋白, Notch信号通路调控细胞的增殖、分化及凋亡^[15-17]。据此, 我们推测, HERP可能具有促进精原细胞增殖的作用。PEBP1又称为Raf激酶抑制蛋白(Raf kinase inhibitory protein, RKIP), 是Raf/MAPK信号通路的调节子和转移性肿瘤(metastatic cancer)抑制剂^[18]。我们推测PEBP1很可能与生精过程中生殖细胞分裂活动有关。Stathmin蛋白属于Stathmin家族, 该家族共有4个成员: Stathmin (STMN 1)、SCG10 (STMN 2)、SCLIP (STMN 3)和RB3 (STMN 4)。Stathmin是作为微管运动因子被发现的, 在神经轴突的生长中起重要作用^[19]。Guillaume等研究发现, 大鼠睾丸中Stathmin在有丝分裂的精原细胞、精母细胞及精子细胞中都有表达^[21]。推测Stathmin很可能参与生精过程中复杂的细胞结构的重组。另外, 生物信息学分析表明, 未命名蛋白(Px)含有结构域RUN。有报道表明, RUN能与Etk/BMX酪氨酸激酶相互作用, 参与细胞分裂、分化、运动及凋亡的调节^[20]。然而, 该未命名蛋白(Px)对小鼠精原细胞的分裂增殖是否具有调控作用尚需进一步研究。

本文通过制作有效的隐睾动物模型, 运用蛋白组学技术方法, 成功筛选并鉴定了HERP、PEBP1、Stathmin和一种未命名蛋白(Px)等隐睾相关蛋白, 有助于SSCs自增殖机制的研究和隐睾引起雄性不育机制的探讨。

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致谢: 感谢军事医学科学院仪器分析测试中心张学敏、魏开华、王杰、王鸿丽、薛燕、许彬等对该工作的大力帮助。

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