论著

儿童脑内静脉三维相位 对比血管成像序列参数 优化研究*

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【摘要】目的 优化三维相位对比静脉成像MR(3D phase contrast venography, 3D PCV)序列,提高 其对脑内静脉血管的可视化效果。**方法** 收集健康儿 童28名,采用西门子Skyra(德国)3.0T MR扫描仪行 厂家原始和优化的3D PCV序列。原始3D PCV序列 (原始组)的流速编码(velocity encoding, VENC)为 12cm/s,优化3D PCV序列(优化组)的VENC为20cm/ s。采用主观评价法对上矢状窦、下矢状窦、直窦、 皮质静脉、右乙状窦、左乙状窦、右横窦、左横 窦、窦汇进行评分。采用Wilcoxon符号秩检验比较 两组图像的主观评分,P<0.05认为差异有统计学意 义。结果优化组的上矢状窦(P=0.004)、右乙状窦 (P=0.005)、左乙状窦(P<0.001)、右横窦(P<0.001)、 左横窦(P=0.01)、直窦(P<0.001)可视化效果优于原 始组; 原始组和优化组下矢状窦(P=0.556)、皮质静 脉(P=1)、窦汇(P=0.287)的可视化效果无差异。结论 优化后的3D PCV序列可明显提高儿童大部分脑内静 脉的可视化效果,增强诊断信心。

【关键词】儿童;脑内静脉;相位对比静脉成像 【中图分类号】R748 【文献标识码】A 【基金项目】深圳市医疗卫生三名工程项目 (SZSM202011005) DOI:10.3969/j.issn.1672-5131.2023.06.007

Optimization of 3D Phase Contrast Venography for the Assessment of the Cerebral Veins in Children*

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ABSTRACT

Objective The aim of this work was to optimize 3D Phase contrast venography (3D PCV) sequence to improve the visualization effect of cerebral veins. *Methods* The original and optimized sequences were used to perform 3D PCV in 28 healthy children using a 3.0T MR system (Siemens Skyra, Germany). The velocity encoding (VENC) of the original 3D PCV sequence (original group) was 12cm/s, while the VENC of optimized 3D PCV sequence (optimized group) was 20cm/s. For evaluation, the cerebral veins was divided into 9 segments. These segments were evaluated by two radiologists with experience in pediatric neuroradiology. A scoring system was used to access the quality of visualization. Wilcoxon sign rank test was used to compare the subjective scores of the two groups, and P< 0.05 was considered statistically significant. *Results* The visualizations of Superior sagittal sinus (P=0.004), right Sigmoid sinus (P=0.005), left Sigmoid sinus (P<0.001), right Transverse sinus (P<0.001), left Transverse sinus (P=0.01) and Straight sinus (P<0.001) in the optimized group were better than those in the original group. The visualizations of Inferior sagittal sinus (P= 0.556), cortical vein (P=1) and Torcular Herophili (P=0.287) showed no difference between the original group and the optimized group. Conclusion The optimized 3D PCV pulse sequence showed superior results compared to the original 3D PCV for the visualization and evaluation of the venous system in all healthy children volunteers. Keywords: Children; Cerebral Vein; Phase Contrast Venography (3D PCV)

三维相位对比血管成像(3D phase contrast angiography, 3D-PCV),是非对比增 强磁共振血管成像方法的一种,而且这种相位差别的大小和血液的流动速度相关,显 然血液流动越快,其中的质子空间位移就越大,这样它和静止组织之间的相位差别也 就越大。在PC MRV成像过程中,这对大小相等、方向相反的梯度脉冲对被称为流动编 码(flow encoding, FE)梯度。序列通过施加双极梯度场,造成流动质子群与静止组织 的相位差别,抑制背景、突出血流信号的血管成像方法^[1-2]。3D-PCV背景组织抑制效果 好、小血管显示好,尤其适用于静脉血管的可视性检查或血流的定量分析,认为是脑静 脉系统成像的有效检查方法,并且已成为评估DVST的首选方式^[1,3-4]。3D-PCV最终所显 示的血管与成像参数具有很高的依赖性, 3D-PCV会受到流速编码(velocity encoding, VENC)大小、反转角、TR、TE、饱和带等因素的影响,导致颅脑静脉的可视性效果下 降,其中VENC是最重要的影响因素^[1]。目前,成人3D-PCV的VENC设置通为15cm/s 时,硬脑膜窦可充分显示^[5],查阅文献儿童暂未发现相关统一标准。本研究拟采用不同 的VENC进行脑内静脉系统3D-PCV可视化成像,分析脑内静脉系统的可视化效果,探讨 儿童脑内静脉系统3D-PCV最佳的VENC。

1 资料与方法

1.1 研究对象 本研究已获得深圳市儿童医院医学研究伦理委员会的批准。收集2021年1 月至2021年9月期间到深圳市儿童医院行MR扫描的健康儿童。

纳入标准:年龄在1-16岁之间;无MR检查相关禁忌症;无神经系统相关病史。排除标准:不能配合MR检查者;MR扫描发现明显脑内病变者。最终,共有28名儿童纳入本研究。

1.2 成像设备及扫描参数 采用西门子Skyra 3.0T超导磁共振扫描仪(德国),20通道头 颈联合线圈采集MRI数据。对不配合患儿给予2mL/kg体重水合氯醛口服或灌肠镇静后 进行MR检查。横断位T₁ FLAIR: TR1800ms,TE42ms,TI800ms,矩阵320×320,FOV230×187mm,层厚6mm。横断位T₂:TR2300ms,TE108ms,矩阵320×320,FOV230 mm×194mm,层厚6mm。横断位T₂ FLAIR:采用TSE序列,TR9000ms,TE134ms,TI2600ms,矩阵320×320,FOV230×194mm,层厚6mm。矢状位T₁:TR 200ms,TE2.49ms,矩阵320×320,FOV250×250,层厚5mm。原始组3D PCV序列:TR37ms,TE8.82ms,翻转角15°,矩阵320×320,FOV250×235mm,层厚1mm。优化组3D PCV序列:TR49.3ms,TE8.82ms,翻转角15°,矩阵320×320,FOV250×235mm,层厚1mm。

1.3 VENC设置 采用2D PC方法测量年龄为1岁、3岁、5岁、10岁、15岁的儿童各一例,结果显示其上矢状窦峰值流速分别为19cm/s、18.59 cm/s、17 cm/s、16.35 cm/s、16 cm/s。既往研究表明最佳VENC通常为目标血管峰值流速的120%⁶⁶,因此本研究

优化组的VENC设置为20cm/s。原始组的VENC为12cm/s。

1.4 影像质量评价 在西门子Skyra 3.0T超导磁共振扫描仪(德国) 后处理工作站对两组进行最大信号强度投影(maximum intensity projection, MIP),由2名具有10年儿科神经影像研究经历的放 射科医师共同对图像质量进行打分。使用0-3分的评分标准对脑 内静脉的可视化效果进行评估^[7],具体如下:0分:不可见。1 分:部分可见,不足以诊断。2分:静脉结构一般均匀增强和连 续性,诊断信心不足。3分:图像质量优良,高度均匀,连续增 强,血管边界明显锐利,诊断高度自信。

1.5 统计学方法统计学分析使用SPSS 22.0软件,比较采用 Shapiro-Wilk检验分析计量资料是否符合正态分布:(1)符合正态 分布:采用独立样本t检验进行组间对比,统计参数描述采用均数 及标准差,即"(x±s)";(2)不符合正态分布:采用Wilcoxon 符号秩检验进行组间对比,统计参数描述采用中位数和级差。 P<0.05认为差异有统计学意义。

2 结 果

本研究共28例儿童纳入统计学分析,平均年龄为6.2±3(±S) 岁,男孩17例,女孩11例。2位儿科神经影像医师对两组图像共 18个静脉段进行评估。Shapiro-Wilk检验分析计量资料不符合正 态分布,两个序列间比较采用Wilcoxon符号秩检验。优化组的 上矢状窦(P=0.004)、右乙状窦(P=0.005)、左乙状窦(P<0.001)、 右横窦(P<0.001)、左横窦(P=0.01)、直窦(P<0.001)可视化效 果优于原始组;原始组和优化组下矢状窦(P=0.556)、皮质静脉 (P=1)、窦汇(P=0.287)的可视化效果无差异。见表1及图1。



图1 原始组与优化组3D-PCV序列对脑内静脉的可视化效果比较。图1A、图1B、图1C为原始组的MIP图,图2A、图2B、图2C为优化组的MIP图。如图所示,原始组的皮质静脉(橙色箭头)显示明显优于优化组(图);优化组的横窦(蓝色箭头)、乙状窦(紫色箭头)、上矢状窦(黄色箭头)、直窦(绿色箭头)显示明显优于原始组。

组别	分值(分)	上矢状窦	下矢状窦	直窦	皮质静脉	右乙状窦	左乙状窦	右横窦	左横窦	窦汇			
原始组	中位数	1	3	2	3	3	3	3	3	3			
	最大值	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3			
	最小值	0	2	2	3	2	2	2	0	0			
	级差	3	1	1	0	1	1	1	3	0			
优化组	中位数	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3			
	最大值	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3	3			
	最小值	2	2	3	3	0	3	3	3	2			
	级差	1	1	0	0	3	0	0	0	1			
	P值	0.004*	0.556	<0.001'	1.000	0.005*	0.001*	<0.001*	0.01*	0.287			

表1 原始组与优化组主观评价得分的组间对比结果

注: 级差=最大值-最小值; *表示同一列数据差异有统计学意义(P<0.05)。

3 讨 论

常见脑内静脉系统的疾病主要包括硬脑膜静脉窦血栓、皮质 静脉血栓、静脉曲张、持续性胚胎窦、骨膜窦等^[8-9]。整体而言, 脑内静脉系统的疾病较少见,但有些疾病会产生严重的后果,如 脑静脉窦血栓。脑静脉窦血栓常发生于年轻患者^[10-11],最常累横 窦、乙状窦、上矢状窦、直窦等部位^[12-13],造成静脉流出受限, 导致多达3-15%的患者在病情的急性期死亡^[10],更为重要的是脑 静脉窦血栓是可以治愈的^[14-15]。因此及时、准确的脑静脉系统成 像有助于脑静脉系统的全面评估,对相关疾病的诊断、临床决策

的指导以及治疗效果的评估等方面都具有重要意义。

既往研究显示,MRI是一种良好的脑静脉系统可视化技术, 在脑内静脉系统疾病的诊断中起主要作用,但大多数情况下需要 进行含钆造影剂对比增强静脉造影,以保证更好的图像质量,包 括信噪比、空间分辨率和静脉血液信号强度等,提高诊断信心^{[3,} ^{16]}。然而,注射含钆造影剂可带来额外的危害和风险,主要包括 肾源性系统性纤维化(nephrogenic systemic fibrosis, NSF)^[17]和 脑部特定区域的钆沉积^[18]。NSF可导致多器官和组织纤维化,包 括肌肉、肺、肝和心脏,产生严重的残疾甚至导致死亡^[19]。含钆 造影剂可造成一些脑部区域的钆沉积物,尤其是齿状核和苍白球 等区域^[18]。这对儿童来说尤其令人担忧,与成人相比,他们发育 中的机体更容易受到外源性毒素的影响^[20]。因此儿童患者迫切需 要一种非注射钆造影剂的静脉成像代替技术。

本研究结果显示,较低的VENC(12cm/s)对儿童下矢状 窦、皮质静脉等流速较慢的细小脑内静脉段显示较好,较高的 VENC(20cm/s)对儿童上矢状窦、直窦、横窦、乙状窦等流速较 快的粗大脑内静脉段显示较好。与本研究的结果不同,Mimura S等人^[6]发现VENC为15cm/s时成人硬脑膜窦的可视化效果最 好。究其原因,可能与儿童脑静脉流速高于成人有关。因此,对 于儿童脑静脉3D PCV应适当提高VENC。

根据本研究所得结果,笔者认为可以在实际工作中根据不同 的目标区域设置合理的VENC,以保证3D PCV对儿童不同脑静脉 分段的可视化显示效果,具体如下:(1)对于怀疑上矢状窦上矢状 窦、乙状窦、横窦、直窦等较粗大脑内静脉段病变时应选择较大 的VENC(20cm/s);(2)对于怀疑下矢状窦、皮质静脉等细小脑内 静脉段选择较小的VENC(12cm/s);(3)怀疑全脑静脉系统异常应 同时扫描较小VENC(12cm/s)及较大VENC(20cm/s)的3D PCV, 以全面评估整个脑内静脉系统,防止漏诊。

本研究的不足之处为:首先,被试的年龄段较为局限,主要 集中在1-16岁,下一步研究应增加其他年龄段儿童的相关研究; 其次VENC的设置范围较小,未对20cm/s 以上的VENC 进行研 究,在未来的研究中应探讨更高的VENC是否会对儿童脑静脉系 统的可视化更有帮助。

综上所述,提高VENC可显著改善儿童3D PCV的静脉可视化 效果,增加诊断信息量,提高诊断信心。

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(上接第16页)

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