

综述

心脏CT血管造影在左心耳封堵术后随访中的研究进展*

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【摘要】目前左心耳封堵术(LAAC)已成为预防房颤脑卒中的主要策略,但封堵术后并发症发生率仍然较高,因此封堵术后的定期随访对于并发症的检出极为重要。与经食管超声心动图(TEE)相比,心脏CT血管造影(CCTA)具有分辨率高、无需镇静和非侵入性的优势,是目前LAAC后随访的首选检查方式。本文就CCTA在左心耳封堵术后并发症检出及内皮化的研究进展进行综述。

【关键词】心房颤动; LAAC; CCTA; 残余分流; 器械相关血栓; 内皮化

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Research Progress of CT Cardiac Angiography in Follow-up after Left Atrial Appendage Closure*

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ABSTRACT

Left atrial appendage closure (LAAC) has become the primary strategy to prevent stroke in atrial fibrillation, but the incidence of postoperative complications is still high. Therefore, it is vital to detect postoperative complications regularly. Compared with transesophageal echocardiography (TEE), cardiac CT angiography (CCTA) has the advantages of high resolution, no need for sedation, and non-invasiveness, which is the preferred method of follow-up after LAAC. The research progresses of complications and endothelialization after left atrial appendage closure with CCTA were reviewed in this article.

Keywords: Atrial Fibrillation; LAAC; CCTA; Peri-device Leak; Device-related Thrombosis; Endothelialization

心房颤动(atrial fibrillation, AF)目前已成为最常见的快速型心律失常,好发的平均年龄为75岁^[1]。相关文献报道,绝大多数脑卒中的血栓均来自于左心耳(left atrial appendage, LAA)^[2-3]。左心耳封堵术(LAA closure, LAAC)已成为公认的预防AF患者脑卒中的理想治疗方法^[4],与口服抗凝药物治疗相比,其安全性与可行性已经得到诸多实验研究的证实^[5-7]。经食管超声心动图(transesophageal echocardiography, TEE)是检测LAA内是否存在血栓的金标准方法,但部分患者不能耐受且存在禁忌症。目前随着心脏CT血管造影(CT cardiac angiography, CCTA)的广泛应用,不仅可作为TEE的一种替代方法用来术前评估LAA,其具有三维重建的特点能够精准的指导封堵器型号的选择^[8],发现LAAC后早期并发症,如心肌缺血、气体栓塞和感染等^[9],更能清楚地显示LAAC后情况,如封堵器移位、脱落或栓塞、封堵器周围残余分流以及器械相关性血栓(device-related thrombosis, DRT)的形成等^[10]。本文就CCTA评估LAAC后PDL、DRT及内皮化的研究进展进行综述。

1 CCTA在LAAC后残余分流评估中的价值

目前,最常见的残余分流形式为封堵器周围漏,即残余漏(peri-device leak, PDL),定义为封堵器边缘存在进入残存LAA内部的血流,即LAA与封堵器之间的分流^[11-12],在CCTA图像上表现为沿着封堵器边缘自左心房到LAA的连续对比度增强^[13]。在未发现PDL的情况下仍出现LAA内对比度增强,其因为封堵器内皮化不全,即跨织物渗漏,在CCTA图像上表现为穿过封堵器高分子膜的自左心房到LAA的连续对比度增强^[14]。LAA是左心房旁的一个狭长、弯曲的管状盲端结构,其形状和大小的差异均可能出现未完全封堵的情况,从而导致PDL的形成。LAA的口部形态具有多样性,而封堵器大多呈圆形^[15],这种形状差异也是导致PDL比例增加的主要原因^[16]。尽管有研究表明,封堵器压缩比不足10%、术前对LAA开口及形态评估不当、封堵器不完全内皮化和消融术后心房组织水肿等因素与PDL形成有关,但目前仍尚无准确定论LAAC后PDL的预测因素^[17]。植入Watchman封堵器后,随访1年结果显示术后PDL的发生率可达5~32%^[18]。一项对Amplatzer封堵器术后随访的前瞻性研究报道,植入封堵器1年后,随访PDL发生率为11.6%~12.5%,低于Watchman封堵器PDL发生率(32.1%)^[19],但差异无统计学意义,表明PDL可在不同类型的封堵器植入后发生。

LAAC后需多模态影像学随访以评估PDL。相关研究报道,以残存LAA测量CT值 ≥ 100 HU或残存LAA/左心房CT值 $\geq 25\%$ 作为界值评估封堵器PDL,其敏感度高达100%,特异度达66.7%^[11]。Jaugszewski^[20]等首次应用CCTA及TEE对LAAC后患者进行随访评估,对PDL的诊断分别是62%(CCTA)和36%(TEE);Qamar^[21]等在比较TEE和CCTA检测封堵术后患者PDL的大型长期研究中报道,CCTA检测PDL发生率(52.0%)高于TEE(35.0%),并且还就PDL产生的机制进行研究,得出CCTA有助于鉴别泄漏机制的结论,以上研究均表明CCTA评估PDL较TEE具有更高的敏感性,与Saw等人研究成果一致。虽然TEE可以对PDL进行实时评估以及提供实际流速,但TEE作为一种有创操作,其患者的接受度较低,甚至存在检查禁忌症且操作者的经验也可能会造成TEE结果的偏倚,而CCTA检查则具有灵敏度高、信息更全面、易于三维重建、更客观量化PDL等优点,构建LAAC后评估封堵器的标准化视图,精准检测有无PDL以及对其宽度进行高分辨率测量,能够将其分为三种,即较小(<1 mm)、中等(1-3mm)或较大(>3 mm)PDL^[22]。Jaugszewski等人在应用CCTA测量LAA封堵器压缩比并观察封堵器与LAA开口的相对位置对患者术后随访的研究中发现,若封堵器压缩比 $>10\%$ 或LAA开口方向与封堵器中轴垂直,则基本不会出现PDL,与Nguyen^[12]等结论一致。因此,CCTA在LAAC后方面的优势

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有助于临床医生制定个性化治疗策略,应得到更多的重视。

目前,残余分流被认为与LAAC后的不良预后相关^[23]。有文献报道以TEE作为随访方式的研究均说明残余分流会增加缺血性脑卒中的风险,但以CCTA作为随访方式的长期临床不良事件较少^[24]。心脏磁共振成像也是一种无创检查,其能否成为CCTA的替代检查方案还有待进一步研究。因此,建议定期CCTA随访、围手术期使用抗凝药、选择合适的LAA封堵器尺寸,对封堵成功会产生一定的协同作用^[25]。另外近年来出现几种新兴的针对LAAC后残余分流的封堵技术,如弹簧圈栓塞系统和血管封堵器等也逐渐广泛地应用于临床,CCTA是否适用于残余分流封堵效能的评估也有待进一步研究^[26]。

2 CCTA在LAAC后器械相关血栓评估中的价值

DRT是LAAC后并发症之一,LAA封堵器作为一种异物植入人体内,大多数DRT好发封堵器心房侧。多项研究已探讨DRT发生的危险因素,包括不完全封堵、植入深度、大口径、高CHA₂DS₂VASc评分、低射血分数、AF持续时间、术后用药方案等^[27]。

CCTA可作为LAAC后随访DRT的重要手段,封堵器表面存在低密度影表明产生DRT,延迟期持续性充盈缺损存在,根据缺损形状可分为层状血栓及块状血栓,以前者多见,血栓厚度<1mm标志着封堵器表面内皮化^[28]。相关文献报道^[29],应用CCTA检出封堵器周围残余分流的存在会增加DRT的风险,残余分流患者的封堵器间隙血流流速下降,可能会导致LAA内出现湍流,封堵器表面容易形成DRT。DRT在封堵器中的检测率高达5.7%^[30],绝大多数在内皮化不全或延迟内皮化的房颤患者中出现,血栓脱落会导致卒中,DRT形成时会使脑血管事件的概率提升数倍,与脑卒中的发生密切相关。Bai^[31]等研究得出PDL在2-3mm与DRT形成有关;Kanderian^[32]等人研究显示LAAC后若PDL>1cm与DRT的形成及血栓栓塞事件有绝对的关系。Korsholm^[33]通过CCTA对LAAC后LAA封堵器的分析中发现封堵器存在低衰减层厚(hypoattenuated thickening, HAT)现象,HAT可能代表DRT形成临时早期的血小板聚集和纤维蛋白沉积^[34],CCTA将HAT分为低等级和高等级,高等级HAT与DRT类似,但在TEE上却无法显示低等级HAT,表明CCTA比TEE在检测DRT方面更具优势。

DRT在确诊后应立即开展治疗。目前,DRT的抗栓治疗还没有统一的方案,大多数患者采用抗凝治疗或更换抗血小板治疗。若抗凝治疗仍然无效或DRT较大,则建议考虑手术清除。绝大部分DRT在LAAC后CCTA随访下都能够发现,因此,应用CCTA随访对于卒中的预防至关重要。

3 CCTA在LAAC后封堵器内皮化进程评估中的价值

封堵器内皮化(neo-endothelialization, NE)过程类似于创伤愈合,动物研究显示,在LAAC后3天,由于炎症、凝血反应,封堵器表面开始出现纤维蛋白沉积;术后45天,新生心内膜完全覆盖Watchman封堵器的所有表面,并于左心房相连续;术后90天,在封堵器表面观察到一层新生内皮组织和纤维结缔组织膜。目前关于人体LAAC后封堵器的完全内皮化时间尚不完全清楚。有研究表明,在人体中封堵器心房侧表面形成完整内皮需要一段很长的时间^[35],因此应用CCTA可以很好的来评估LAAC后封堵器的密封性及内皮化进程。

目前文献中^[36]评估人体内皮化进程的方法均为测量残存LAA或邻近心肌平均线性衰减系数的比率或者差值。Sivasambu等^[36]以左心房和左心室心肌的造影剂混浊为参照点,评估封堵器的平均线性衰减系数;定义没有PDL的情况下,残存LAA平均线性衰减系数等于或低于心肌则为完全内皮化;残存LAA远端超过心肌平均线性衰减系数则为内皮化不全。Lindner等^[27]利用多平面重建LAA封堵器图像进行评估,将左心房密度超过残存LAA 50HU定义为残余分流,在无残余分流时,若残存LAA内见造影剂渗入定义为内皮化不全,反之为完全内皮化。Lindner通过一项前瞻性长达半年的使用CCTA对封堵器内皮化进行评估的随访结果,报道了人体完全性NE的比率为44%,远低于动物NE研究,其研究结

论是NE评估发展的重要一步。

2023年,美国Aakash Garg教授^[37]提出LAA封堵器如何快速完成NE是未来封堵器发展的重要命题。有研究表明^[38],计算流体力学分析内皮细胞活化电位可计算内皮化的反应,并与DRT及脑卒中相关。准确评估LAAC后封堵器内皮化程度对指导药物抗栓方案、减少DRT形成具有重要的临床意义。与TEE相比,CCTA已被证明可以更敏感地检测到LAA封堵器内皮化不全^[39]。另有文献指出^[40]血清学细胞因子能够用于评估LAAC后内皮化进程,但仍需临床进一步研究证实。

4 小 结

综上所述,CCTA具有卓越的高分辨率、无需镇静及非侵入性的优点,在LAAC后随访中具有极高的价值,其三维重建特性可以全面准确地显示LAA的解剖及毗邻结构,有助于精准检测术后随访中的并发症,指导临床治疗。

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