

Application Value of DKI in Predicting IDH and TERT Molecular Subtypes of Glioma*

论 著

DKI预测脑胶质瘤IDH和TERT分子分型的应用价值*

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【摘要】目的 评估扩散峰度成像(diffusion kurtosis image, DKI)预测较低级别脑胶质瘤(lower grade glioma, LGG)的异柠檬酸脱氢酶(isocitrate dehydrogenase, IDH)和端粒酶逆转录酶(telomerase reverse transcriptase, TERT)分子分型的价值。**方法** 回顾33例具有明确组织病理学及基因测序结果的LGG(WHO2、3级)患者的术前常规磁共振及DKI图像,使用肿瘤区与对侧正常脑白质校正后的DKI参数:相对平均峰度(relative mean kurtosis, rMK)、相对轴向峰度(relative axial kurtosis, rKa)、相对径向峰度(relative radial kurtosis, rKr)、相对峰度各向异性分数(relative fractional anisotropy of kurtosis, rFAK)评估DKI预测LGG患者IDH分子分型的价值,并在IDH野生组患者中评估上述参数预测TERT分子分型的价值。采用两独立样本t检验、秩和检验和受试者工作特征(receiver operating characteristic curve, ROC)曲线对变量进行统计分析。**结果** 在所有LGG中, IDH野生组的rMK、rKa、rKr值显著高于IDH突变组($P=0.001$ 、 $P=0.002$ 、 $P=0.008$),曲线下面积分别为0.820、0.805、0.768。在IDH野生型LGG中, TERT突变组的rMK、rKa、rKr值高于TERT野生组($P=0.019$ 、 $P=0.033$ 、 $P=0.017$),曲线下面积分别为0.833、0.867、0.833。**结论** DKI可预测LGG的IDH和TERT分子分型。MK、Ka、Kr是术前预测LGG患者IDH突变的参数;在IDH野生型患者中, MK、Ka、Kr可预测TERT启动子突变。

【关键词】 脑胶质瘤; 扩散峰度成像; 异柠檬酸脱氢酶; 端粒酶逆转录酶

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ABSTRACT

Objective To evaluate the value of diffusion kurtosis image (DKI) in predicting the status of isocitrate dehydrogenase (IDH) and telomerase reverse transcriptase (TERT) promoters in lower grade glioma (LGG). **Methods** The preoperative conventional magnetic resonance images and DKI images of 33 patients with LGG confirmed by histopathology were reviewed, all of whom had complete gene sequencing results. The DKI parameters corrected by tumor area and contralateral normal brain white matter: relative mean kurtosis (rMK), relative axial kurtosis (rKa), relative radial kurtosis (rKr) and relative fractional anisotropy of kurtosis (rFAK) were used to evaluate the value of DKI on the status of isocitrate dehydrogenase (IDH) in LGG patients. The predictive value of these parameters for telomerase reverse transcriptase (TERT) promoter status was evaluated in IDH wild-type patients. Two independent samples t test, rank sum test and receiver operating characteristic curve (ROC) were used to analyze the variables. **Results** In all LGGs, the MK, Ka and Kr values of IDH-wild group were significantly higher than those of IDH-mutant group ($P=0.001$, $P=0.002$, $P=0.008$), the area under the curve was 0.820, 0.805, 0.768. In IDH-wild LGG, the rMK, rKa and rKr values of the TERT-mutant group were higher than those of the TERT-wild group ($P=0.019$, $P=0.033$, $P=0.017$). The areas under the curve were 0.833, 0.867, 0.833. **Conclusion** DKI can predict the IDH and TERT molecular classification of LGG. rMK, rKa and rKr were the parameters for preoperative prediction of IDH mutation in LGG patients; in IDH-wild patients, rMK, rKa, and rKr can predict TERT promoter mutations.

Keywords: Glioma; Diffusion Kurtosis Imaging; Isocitrate Dehydrogenase; Telomerase Reverse Transcriptase

脑胶质瘤占所有脑恶性肿瘤的82%, 浸润性高, 预后差^[1]。组织学级别WHO2、3级的脑胶质瘤称为较低级别脑胶质瘤(lower grade glioma, LGG)^[2], 其生物学行为、预后差异较大^[3]。因此, 2021年WHO中枢神经系统肿瘤分类确立了LGG的高危分子标记物: 异柠檬酸脱氢酶(isocitrate dehydrogenase, IDH)、端粒酶逆转录酶(telomerase reverse transcriptase, TERT)等^[4], 以评估个体预后, 开展个性化治疗^[5]。由于分子病理检测有创、代表性差, 故无创磁共振成像(magnetic resonance imaging, MRI)预测LGG分子分型潜力巨大。

DKI是先进的扩散MRI技术。相比于描述组织内水分子自由、不受限运动的扩散张量成像, DKI(diffusion kurtosis image, DKI)模型纳入了生物膜等扩散限制因素, 获得了描述扩散位移偏离高斯分布程度的峰度参数, 实现了以水分子扩散的不均质性反映肿瘤异质性的进步。既往DKI对脑胶质瘤分子分型的研究多为单一分子^[6-8], 本研究将探讨DKI参数(MK、Ka、Kr、FAK)对LGG患者IDH和TERT分子分型的预测价值。

1 材料与与方法

1.1 一般资料 回顾分析山西医科大学第一医院确诊的33例LGG患者, 其中WHO2级19例, WHO3级14例。

纳入标准: 经组织病理学证实的WHO 2、3级脑胶质瘤的患者; 术前均行常规MRI及DKI扫描; 均具备完整的IDH、TERT基因测序结果; 术前均未接受放疗等干预措施。所有病例中, IDH突变组16例, IDH野生组17例。在IDH野生组中, TERT突变组5例, TERT野生组12例。

1.2 检查方法 使用GE 3.0T磁共振扫描仪和8通道头颈联合线圈进行检查。扫描序列包括常规MRI(T₁WI、T₂WI、T₂-FLAIR、增强扫描)及DKI扫描。常规MRI序列主要扫描参数: T₁WI、增强(TR/TE 1973/22 ms, 层厚6.0 mm), T₂WI、T₂-FLAIR(TR/TE 8002/127ms, 层厚6.0 mm), 增强药物使用钆喷替酸葡甲胺(0.1 mmol/kg)。DKI采用自旋回波平面序列, 取3个b值分别为0、1000、2000s/mm², 30个扩散敏感梯度场, TR/TE为6500/84ms, FOV 24 cm×24 cm, 矩阵256×256, 激发次数: 1, 层厚6.0 mm, 层间距: 1 mm。

1.3 图像后处理和分析 将原始图像导入个人电脑, 使用DKE软件进行图像处理获得DKI参数的伪彩图: 平均扩散峰度(mean kurtosis, MK), 轴向扩散峰度(axial kurtosis, Ka)、径向扩散峰度(radial kurtosis, Kr)、峰度各向异性分数(fractional anisotropy of kurtosis, FAK)。依据常规MRI, 在伪彩图上对肿瘤实质区、对侧正常脑白质分别

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手动勾画ROI, 面积均为30~50mm², 测3次取平均值。为消除个体差异, 取肿瘤区与对侧正常白质区的比值为各参数校正值: rMK(relative MK)、rKa(relative Ka)、rKr(relative Kr)及rFAK(relative FAK)。

1.4 统计分析 使用SPSS 26.0软件用于数据分析。计量资料用均值±标准差表示, 采用两独立样本t检验或秩和检验比较各参数的组间差异。P<0.05具有统计学意义。将有统计学意义的参数绘制ROC曲线, 以获得最佳参数。

2 结果

2.1 临床资料 IDH突变组16例, IDH野生组17例, 年龄在两组间

有统计学差异(P=0.003), 性别在两组间无统计学差异。在17例IDH野生型LGG中, TERT突变组5例, TERT野生组12例, 年龄、性别在TERT两组间无统计学差异。具体信息见表1。

2.2 DKI参数与IDH分子分型的关系 IDH突变组的rMK、rKa、rKr值低于IDH野生组(P<0.05), 两组间FAK差异无统计学意义(表2)。对有意义的参数绘制ROC, 获得其诊断效能如下图(图1; 表3)。

2.3 DKI参数与TERT分子分型的关系 TERT突变组的rMK、rKa、rKr高于TERT野生组(P<0.05), 两组间FAK差异无统计学意义(表2)。对有意义的参数绘制ROC, 获得其诊断效能如下图(图1; 表3)。

2.4 典型病理影像 典型病例影像见图2、图3。

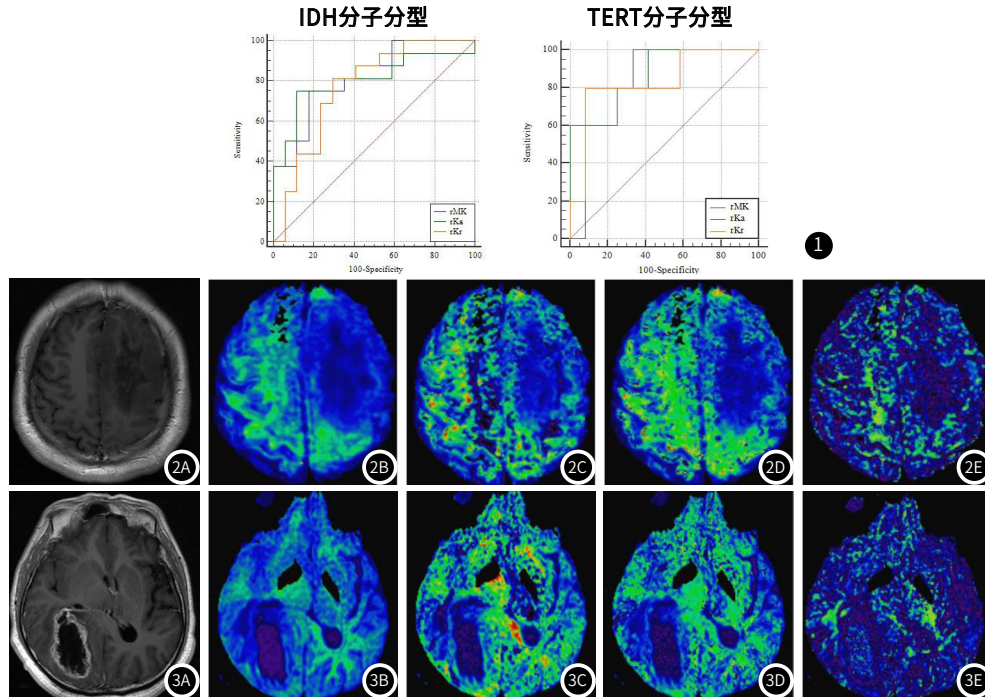


图1 肿瘤区rMK, rKa和rKr的ROC曲线。**图2** 男, 33岁, WHO2级星形细胞瘤, IDH突变型。图2A: T1增强图, 左侧额叶异常未强化信号影, 图2B~图2E: 依次为MK图、Kr图、Ka图、FAK图。**图3** 男, 42岁, WHO3级星形细胞瘤, IDH野生型, TERT突变型。图3A: T1增强图, 右侧枕叶明显环形强化影, 图3B~图3E: 依次为MK图、Kr图、Ka图、FAK图。

表1 患者临床资料

	所有LGG			IDH野生型LGG		
	IDH野生(N=17)	IDH突变(N=16)	P值	TERT突变(N=5)	TERT野生(N=12)	P值
年龄(岁)	55.73±11.17	43.47±11.19	0.003	53.67±9.03	56.25±11.58	-
性别(男/女)	10/7	6/10	-	3/2	7/5	-
组织级别(2/3)	5/12	14/2	-	1/4	4/8	-

表2 DKI参数在不同IDH, TERT分型LGG的比较

参数	所有LGG			IDH野生型LGG		
	IDH野生(N=17)	IDH突变(N=16)	P值	TERT突变(N=5)	TERT野生(N=12)	P值
rMK	0.66±0.17	0.47±0.12	0.001	0.81±0.12	0.60±0.15	0.019
rKa	0.86±0.20	0.70±0.39	0.002	1.04±0.17	0.79±0.17	0.033
rKr	0.56±0.21	0.38±0.11	0.008	0.74±0.15	0.48±0.18	0.017
rFAK	0.68±0.32	0.70±0.31	0.909	0.53±0.29	0.74±0.32	0.280

表3 DKI参数对IDH, TERT分子分型的诊断效能

参数	所有LGG				IDH野生型LGG			
	最佳截断值	敏感度	特异度	AUC	最佳截断值	敏感度	特异度	AUC
rMK	0.499	75.00%	82.40%	0.820	0.643	100%	66.70%	0.833
rKa	0.660	75.00%	98.20%	0.805	1.095	60.00%	100%	0.867
rKr	0.460	81.20%	70.60%	0.768	0.6814	80.00%	91.70%	0.833

3 讨论

3.1 DKI参数及其意义 DKI可同时反映肿瘤组织的细胞构筑和微观动力学^[9], 已广泛应用于脑胶质瘤^[7,8,10-12]的诊疗过程。其主要参数包括峰度参数(MK、Ka、Kr、FAK), 描述水分子非高斯扩散, 反映组织复杂程度。MK是组织沿空间各方向扩散峰度的平均值, MK值越大, 水分子扩散受限越严重, 组织复杂性越高; Ka、Kr分别代表沿椭圆体主轴和垂直主轴方向的扩散峰度, 间接评估纤维束的轴突完整性和密度及髓鞘完整性^[9]; FAK类似FA的峰度延伸, 反映峰度各向异性^[13], FAK值越大反映组织结构越紧密规则。

3.2 DKI参数与IDH分子分型分析 作为三羧酸循环的关键酶, IDH催化产生 α -酮戊二酸和烟酰胺腺嘌呤二核苷酸磷酸(nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate, NADPH)^[14]。有研究^[14,15]指出IDH突变可诱导前者转化为D-2-羟基戊二酸进而促进肿瘤细胞缺氧诱导因子-1 α 的降解, 抑制肿瘤增殖; 同时由于NADPH生成减少和代谢消耗, 一方面肿瘤能量供应受阻, 增殖减慢, 另一方面对外部氧化侵蚀更加敏感, 进而提升其对手术治疗、放疗化疗等的敏感性^[16,17], 改善预后。由于不同IDH分子分型的治疗方式、预后差异显著, 术前无创预测脑胶质瘤IDH分子分型意义重大。

本研究结果表明, 在LGG中IDH野生组rMK、rKa、rKr值比IDH突变组高, 且曲线下面积: rMK>rKa>rKr, 表明IDH野生组扩散受限更明显, 提示更具异质性和侵袭性。与既往研究^[6,8,11]相比, 本研究采用校正DKI参数, 减少个体差异带来的偏倚, 取得了较好结果。Tan等^[7]对脑胶质瘤患者的肿瘤区DKI等的参数(MK、MD)进一步建立影像组学模型, 结果表明该模型可鉴别IDH分子分型, 结合水肿程度、年龄的组合模型预测效能更高, AUC分别为0.831、0.885。本研究高rMK值反映IDH野生组的肿瘤细胞内成分复杂, 细胞异质性大, 细胞密度大以及更大程度的水分子扩散受限; 高rKa、rKr值与脑胶质瘤多向浸润所致轴突、髓鞘完整性的破坏有关^[8], 这可能由于野生型IDH肿瘤细胞代谢及能量供应旺盛, 细胞异质性大, 数量多, 侵袭性更强。

3.3 DKI参数与TERT分子分型分析 端粒功能障碍是细胞衰老的标志^[18]。肿瘤无限复制的潜能依赖于端粒酶, 而TERT作为其催化亚单位是端粒酶活性的限速决定因素, 并可激活白介素-6、肿瘤坏死因子- α 等细胞因子的表达^[19]。TERT启动子突变通过上调TERT为脑胶质瘤形成和恶性增殖提供条件^[20]。临床上, TERT启动子状态有助于鉴别脑胶质瘤和胶质增生^[21]; 在脑胶质瘤中, 由于IDH野生型的异质性结局^[22], 基于TERT的进一步分层对个体化治疗及预后意义重大。

本研究结果表明, 在IDH野生型LGG中, TERT突变组的rKa、rMK、rKr值大于TERT野生组, 且曲线下面积: rKa>rMK>rKr。高rKa、rMK、rKr值表示TERT突变组的高细胞异质性和细胞数量, 推测可能原因是TERT突变组染色体稳定、白介素-6等表达提高^[19], 使得细胞分裂持续, 内部血管生成和坏死增加; 且由于脑胶质瘤主要沿轴突和纤维束生长^[8], 轴突破坏显著, Ka的诊断效能最大。该结果与既往^[23-26]结果类似, TERT突变组坏死体积大、成分更复杂, 新生血管增加, 提示肿瘤具有更强的恶性行为。

本研究有以下局限性: 首先, 本研究为单中心回顾性研究且样本量较小; 第二, DKI的b值选取尚无统一标准; 第三, 人工勾画ROI及其与病理组织标本的匹配偏差, 未来尚需更大样本的进一步研究。

综上所述, DKI可预测LGG患者的IDH和TERT分子分型。MK、Ka、Kr是术前预测LGG患者IDH突变的参数; 在IDH野生型患者中, MK、Ka、Kr可预测TERT突变。

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