

· 综述 ·

有氧运动预防并治疗阿尔兹海默病所致轻度认知损害的研究进展

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随着老龄化社会的出现,有学者对 65 岁以上老年人的健康(躯体-心理-社会)进行了调查,发现痴呆在老年性疾病中的关注程度已跃居首位,成为威胁老年人健康的杀手之一。至 2040 年,预计全球痴呆总人数将达到 8110 万人,并且在印度、中国等发展中国家的患病率将增加 300%^[1]。除正常的老年性退变外,血管病变、神经系统病变、意外损伤及感染中毒等也可以导致认知功能减退,其中神经系统退行性病变导致的阿尔茨海默病(Alzheimer's disease, AD)是重要原因之一。2011 年的一项流行病学调查研究表明,AD 的平均患病率为 5% 左右,且女性平均患病率高于男性,患病率随年龄增加呈现出增高趋势^[2]。

AD 早期的临床表现为近期记忆障碍,随之会出现精神行为方面的改变,最终导致日常生活活动能力受限,发展为全面性痴呆。2011 年 4 月颁布的美国 AD 最新诊断标准中将 AD 进程中的认知损害分为 3 个阶段,即无症状临床前 AD 阶段、痴呆前有症状阶段及痴呆阶段,其重点在于将 AD 定义为一种含有轻度认知损害(mild cognitive impairment, MCI)的连续疾病过程^[3]。采用“AD 所致 MCI”这一术语来表述症状性的痴呆前期 AD,目的在于强调此诊断标准是用来识别有症状但还未达到痴呆程度且潜在病理生理改变符合 AD 的患者。与 AD 痴呆相似,“AD 所致 MCI”在现阶段不能通过实验室手段检查确诊,在一定程度上还需借助临床医生的经验判断。虽然目前不能明确 MCI 与 AD 之间的关系,但研究发现 MCI 转化为 AD 的机率很高。其中一项研究显示,约有 44% 的 MCI 患者在 19 个月之后转化为 AD,提示降低 MCI 的患病率可减少 AD 的发生率^[4]。

目前,AD 尚无完全根治方法,早期发现、早期治疗仍是延缓病情的重要措施之一。MCI 这一概念的提出为 AD 的早期治疗和干预提供了新靶点。AD 药物治疗效果有限,尚不能完全逆转病情的持续恶化状态,给 AD 患者及家属带来了极大的精神及经济负担^[5]。随着康复治疗的介入,非药物治疗方式越来越多,且均取得了一定疗效。多项研究提示运动训练能改善老年人的认知功能,降低 AD 的发病率^[6-7]。Meta 分析显示有氧运动可以提高认知功能中的记忆能力和执行能力^[8]。本文从有氧运动角度出发,对其预防并治疗 AD 所致 MCI 的研究进展做一综述。

预防作用

随着老年人的年龄增长,其身体功能逐渐衰退,同时常伴随有认知功能减退。Meta 分析显示,高血压、糖尿病、高血脂及肥

胖等因素都是导致老年人认知功能下降的危险因素^[9]。大量研究结果表明,有氧运动对于控制上述危险因素有积极作用^[10-11]。不联合药物治疗的有氧训练可在一定程度上降低 MCI 发展成为慢性神经退行性疾病的风险^[12]。由此看出,积极防治危险因素对降低认知功能损害的发生率具有重要意义,在临床工作中应及早采取措施对危险因素进行干预。目前,有关其机制的研究尚少。

治疗作用

美国国立卫生研究院指出,运动是目前唯一有可能改善 MCI 患者记忆或大脑功能的措施^[13]。有研究通过 12 年的随访,发现运动可以预防健康老年人的认知功能减退^[14]。在最近一项研究中,发现运动可以降低 MCI 发展成为痴呆的危险性^[15]。目前,有氧运动能否改善痴呆患者的认知功能尚处于争议阶段。有研究指出,适宜的有氧运动不仅能改善患者的健康状况,还能提高其认知功能^[14]。但也有研究报道,有氧运动仅能改善 MCI 或轻度痴呆患者的认知功能,不能改善中重度痴呆患者的认知功能^[16]。

有氧运动包括运动方式、运动强度、运动频率、运动时间等方面,不同的有氧运动方案对认知功能的影响也略有不同。有氧运动主要为大肌群参与的活动,如步行、骑车及有氧运动操等。多数研究采用步行这种简便可行的方法,但步行过于单调,受试者依从性普遍不高。有研究将功率自行车与虚拟现实技术相结合,提高了患者的参与积极性,与单纯的功率自行车相比,功率自行车与虚拟现实技术相结合提供了更多的认知刺激,可以更好地改善认知功能^[17]。但这种方式需要大型设备辅助,在社区中无法大规模推广,故而受到限制。日本研究者 Kimura 等^[18]对 34 例老年人进行 40 min/次,强度为 40%~50% 心率储备的有氧运动体操训练,结果发现有氧运动体操可以缩短任务转换测试的反应时间,提高老年人的认知功能。但其针对的是认知功能正常的健康老人,对于存在认知功能障碍的老年人是否也有同样的效果尚待进一步探究。有氧运动操是一种简单可行、趣味性强的运动方式,其优势在于不需要大型设备及特殊场地,适合在社区应用、推广。

有研究选取运动强度为 40% 和 60% 心率储备的有氧运动,探讨不同有氧运动强度对 MCI 患者简易精神状态评分(minimum mental state examination, MMSE)的影响,发现 3 个月后 2 组间差异无统计学意义($P > 0.05$)^[19]。研究所用的运动强度各有不同,有的研究甚至未明确报道训练强度,但目前低-中强度和中等强度最为常用^[20]。美国运动医学会推荐有氧运动的频率为每周 3~5 次^[21]。Masley 等^[22]将 91 例受试者随机分为 3 组,有氧运动频率分别为 0~2 d/周、3~4 d/周和 5~7 d/周,对其进行 10 周有氧训练后,发现受试者运动频率与执行功能之间

呈剂量-反应关系。此外,有研究指导患者进行 12 个月的有氧运动后,采用功能性核磁共振(functional magnetic resonance imaging,fMRI)技术对患者进行检查,与对照组比较,有氧运动组 12 个月后额叶、枕叶和颞叶皮质细胞间连接显著增加,6 个月时无显著变化,提示大脑可塑性发生变化需要一定的时间^[23]。Meta 分析也发现长周期运动训练(≥6 个月)对认知功能的影响要优于短周期运动训练(1~3 个月),但上述两种情况均比中等周期(4~6 个月)的训练效果好,单次训练时间以 31~45 min 为宜,时间过长(46~60 min)则效果偏差,时间过短(15~30 min)则无训练效果^[16]。

作用机制

通过大量的动物实验,学者们对于有氧运动治疗认知功能障碍的作用机制已有了初步认识。目前,临幊上对于有氧运动治疗痴呆或 MCI 的作用机理研究尚处于初期阶段,研究方向主要集中于有氧运动对大脑结构及功能的影响、对与 AD 相关生物标记物含量的影响及心肺功能影响等方面。

一、有氧运动对大脑结构及功能的影响

南京医科大学课题组在有氧运动对认知功能障碍治疗作用的机制方面进行了深入研究,其采用大鼠侧脑室注射 β 淀粉样蛋白 25-35(A β 25-35)的方式制备具有认知功能障碍的 AD 大鼠模型,并对 AD 大鼠进行为期 4 周的有氧训练,结果证实有氧训练能阻止 A β 25-35 对细胞存活的损害,有效促进 AD 大鼠新生神经元突起生长,提高新生神经元的存活率,减少 AD 大鼠海马亚颗粒细胞区神经细胞的凋亡数目,增加齿状回神经再生^[24-25]。提示其作用机制可能与降低脑组织氧化应激程度、增加血管再生数目有关^[26]。更有研究表明,平板训练可通过糖原合成酶激酶-3 依赖的信号转导通路减少 AD 大鼠 A β 沉积^[27]。但也有研究表明,有氧运动联合抗氧化治疗对改善 AD 大鼠的认知功能无显著作用,其机制还需进一步探究^[28]。

除了事件和语义记忆障碍外,MCI 患者还常伴有脑组织萎缩、大脑功能网络激活改变及大脑灌注量减少等问题^[29]。老年人群负责记忆功能的海马区平均每年萎缩 1%~2%,而每周 3 d、持续 1 年、中等强度的有氧训练可以使老年人海马区容积增加 2%,大约相当于逆转了 1~2 年的与年龄相关的大脑萎缩体积^[6]。影像学研究显示,6 个月的有氧运动训练可以增加大脑灰质和白质的体积,尤其是前额皮质区^[30]。另外,据推测,大脑网络功能连接的减少及记忆提取过程中任务神经元更多数量的激活可能会增加 A β 的沉积量,加重认知损害^[31]。有研究采用 fMRI 观察有氧运动对 MCI 患者和健康老年人认知功能的干预作用,证实 12 周的有氧运动可以降低受试者语义记忆任务脑区的激活水平^[29]。全脑脉冲动脉自旋标记磁共振成像结果显示,与健康老年人相比,MCI 患者左侧海马旁和梭形脑回区域脑血流灌注量相对较少,且在健康老年人中,此区域脑血流灌注与单词记忆呈正相关^[32]。局部脑血流成像提示,MCI 患者和早老性痴呆患者扣带回至内侧楔前叶血流灌注量相对于对照组显著降低^[33]。以上影像学的结果表明脑血流灌注量降低与认知功能减退有着密切的关系。Burdette 等^[34]对年龄在 70~85 岁间且有记忆丢失的老年人进行了持续 4 个月 150 min/周的步行活动,发现有氧运动可以增加老年人海马区域的脑血流量和细胞间连接数量。

综上所述,有氧运动可通过改善大脑神经再生状况、降低脑区激活水平、增加大脑体积及血流量、增强大脑细胞间的连接作用等来改善大脑功能,进而提高认知功能。

二、有氧运动对与 AD 相关生物标记物含量的影响

脑源性神经营养因子(brain derived neurotrophic factor, BDNF)是一种作用广泛的神经营养因子,对神经元具有保护作用,在突触可塑性和神经元的生长、分化、存活及修复过程中起重要作用,与学习、记忆等认知过程密切相关。有研究发现,主动的跑轮运动可以提高淀粉样前体蛋白(amyloid precursor protein, APP)转基因小鼠海马神经营养因子的含量、促进 BDNF 表达、增强海马神经的再生能力^[35]。有研究报道,健康老年人血清 BDNF 水平越高,其认知功能越好^[36]。在针对 MCI 患者的研宍中发现,BDNF 基线水平越高,患者的认知功能评分越高^[37]。对于健康老年人来说,长期有氧运动可以提高其血清 BDNF 水平及空间记忆能力^[6];对于认知功能障碍患者,即时有氧运动可提高其血清 BDNF 水平,其长期有氧运动效应仍需进一步研究^[38]。

研究显示,AD 患者血清中的 A β 水平(尤其是 A β 42 水平)可作为辅助诊断早期老年性 AD 的血清生物学标志物之一^[37]。有研究对小鼠进行 5 个月的跑轮训练后,发现运动可以明显减少小鼠额叶皮质、海马皮质及海马细胞外 A β 的沉积量,且运动组水迷宫实验的逃避时间明显缩短^[39]。目前,有关有氧运动与 A β 之间关系的临床研究尚少,其它因子如 tau 蛋白及胰岛素样生长因子(insulin-like growth factors,IGFs)均被证实与认知功能有关,但有氧运动能否通过改变上述因子水平进而改善认知功能,还需要进一步研究证实。

三、有氧运动对心肺功能的影响

调查显示,非痴呆老年人心肺功能的降低与认知功能减退有关,心肺功能较好的老年人,其认知功能减退相对较少^[40]。AD 老年人的心肺功能与大脑萎缩体积及痴呆严重程度有关^[41]。研究显示,心肺功能较好的年轻人,其 25 年后的单词记忆能力仍然较好,且反应速度较快^[42]。Meta 分析显示有氧运动可以提高 65 岁以上正常老年人及认知障碍患者的心肺适应性,经过运动干预后,认知障碍人群的心肺功能普遍提高了 14% 左右,且认知功能明显改善^[43-44]。

展望

随着 AD 患者的增多,越来越多的研究人员开始关注有氧运动在 AD 所致 MCI 患者中的治疗作用。目前,有关有氧运动治疗认知障碍的作用机制尚不十分明确,本课题组也将继续从基因及分子水平进一步探讨研究。在有氧运动治疗认知障碍的临幊研究中,还存在一定的缺陷,如样本量不足、随机对照设置不合理、有氧训练方案不统一等,使得研究结果出现不同程度的偏差,很难将其应用于临幊工作中。本课题组力求寻找一种可以用于社区老年人的有氧运动方案,对于 AD 的临幊前期、MCI 期进行预防性干预,降低老年人的 AD 发生率,提高老年人的生活质量,减轻社会、家庭的经济负担及精神压力。

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Tetanus toxin preserves skeletal muscle

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVE Skeletal muscle disuse results in a decrease in the volume of myofibers, with a resultant decrease in muscle force production. As the action of tetanus toxin results in increased muscle activity, this animal study was designed to determine the ability of tetanus toxin to prevent changes associated with disuse atrophy.

METHODS Female Sprague rats were divided into three groups, with all undergoing immobilization. Within the experimental groups, one group underwent tetanus toxin injection and one group underwent saline injection. A third group, receiving no injections, served as controls. Two weeks after the injections, the contractile force, muscle and myofiber morphology, as well as the tibialis anterior weight were analyzed and compared to those of the control group.

RESULTS After immobilization, the wet weight of the saline group muscles decreased significantly, to 68% of the wet weight of the control muscles. The wet weight of the toxin-treated muscles maintained 98% of the wet weight of the control muscles. The maximal tetanic tension (P_o) of the toxin injected muscles did not differ from that of the control muscles. The saline group muscles developed on average only 58%/44% of the maximal twitch response (P_t)/maximal tetanic tension (P_o) produced by control muscles. Saline group muscles developed on average only 61%/45% of the P_t/P_o generated by the toxin injected muscles.

CONCLUSION This animal study found that tetanus toxin can prevent common signs of muscle disuse atrophy.

【摘自:Matthews CC, Lovering RM, Bowen TG, et al. Tetanus toxin preserves skeletal muscle contractile force and size during limb immobilization. Muscle Nerve, 2014, 50(5): 759-766.】

Duloxetine for neuropathic pain in multiple sclerosis

BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVE Individuals with multiple sclerosis (MS) often report neuropathic pain. Despite extensive therapies to treat this pain, few controlled studies have focused on the treatment of this condition. This study assessed the efficacy and tolerability of duloxetine for reducing pain severity in patients with MS.

METHODS This randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial included 2,039 adult patients with MS who complained of neuropathic pain of at least three months' duration. Those randomized to the duloxetine treatment group received 30 mg for one week, and then 60 mg for five weeks. Those in the placebo group received placebo once daily for six weeks. The primary efficacy measure was change from baseline average pain intensity (API) at six weeks after randomization. Secondary measures included change from baseline in the weekly mean of night pain intensity (NPI) ratings, Clinical Global Impression of Severity Scale scores, Brief Pain Inventory scores, and scores on the Multiple Sclerosis Quality-Of-Life - 54 instrument.

RESULTS The mean change in weekly API ratings from baseline to week six was greater in the duloxetine group than in the placebo group ($P=0.001$). This difference was significant as early as week one ($P=0.016$), and remained significant at each subsequent week of acute phase therapy ($P<0.01$ for each). More patients in the treatment group withdrew from the study due to adverse events, with the most common being dizziness and somnolence.

CONCLUSION This study of patients with multiple sclerosis accompanied by neuropathic pain found duloxetine to be an effective intervention for this pain.

【摘自:Vollmer TL, Robinson MJ, Risser RC, et al. A randomized, double-blind, placebo-controlled trial of duloxetine for the treatment of pain in patients with multiple sclerosis. Pain Practice, 2014, 14(8): 732-744.】