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## 结直肠癌患者血浆甲基化 Sept9 基因的表达及临床意义

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**摘要** 目的:探讨甲基化 Sept9 基因在结直肠癌患者血浆中的表达及临床意义。方法:选择 2015 年 1 月~2017 年 3 月经陕西省人民医院病理证实的结直肠癌患者 87 例(结直肠癌组)、结直肠息肉患者 79 例(结直肠息肉组)、健康体检者 93 例(健康对照组)作为研究对象,采用实时荧光定量聚合酶链式反应(PCR)技术检测其外周血血浆 Sept9 基因甲基化情况,比较三组甲基化 Sept9 基因阳性表达率,分析甲基化 Sept9 基因阳性表达与结直肠癌病理特征的关系。结果:血浆甲基化 Sept9 基因在结直肠癌组、结直肠息肉组、健康对照组的阳性表达率分别为 71.26%(62/87)、5.06%(4/79)、3.23%(3/93),差异有统计学意义( $P < 0.05$ );血浆甲基化 Sept9 基因阳性表达与结直肠癌患者的性别、年龄、肿瘤部位、病理分型、血管侵犯、神经侵犯无关( $P > 0.05$ ),与肿瘤最大径、浸润深度、分化程度、淋巴结转移、TNM 分期有关( $P < 0.05$ );结直肠癌患者血浆甲基化 Sept9 基因阳性表达率为 71.26%(62/87),高于血清 CEA 的 54.02%(47/87)、CA199 的 35.63%(31/87)、CA724 的 33.33%(29/87)、CA125 的 21.84%(19/87),差异有统计学意义( $P < 0.05$ )。结论:结直肠癌患者外周血血浆甲基化 Sept9 基因呈高表达状态,早期检测甲基化 Sept9 基因表达水平在结直肠癌的诊断及病情评估中有重要意义。

**关键词:** 结直肠癌; Sept9 基因; 甲基化; PCR; 临床病理特征

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## Expression and Clinical Significance of Plasma Methylated Sept9 Gene in Patients with Colorectal Cancer

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**ABSTRACT Objective:** To explore the expression and clinical significance of plasma methylated Sept9 gene in patients with colorectal cancer. **Methods:** A total of 87 patients with colorectal cancer (colorectal cancer group), 79 patients with colorectal polyps (colorectal polyps group), who were confirmed by pathology in shanxi province people's hospital from January 2015 to March 2017, and 93 healthy volunteers (healthy control group) were chosen as subjects. The Quantitative Real-time Polymerase Chain Reaction (PCR) technique was used to detected the methylated of Sept9 gene in peripheral blood plasma. The positive expression rates of methylated Sept9 gene in the three groups were compared. The relationship between positive expression of methylated Sept9 gene and pathological features of colorectal carcinoma was analyzed. **Results:** The positive expression rates of plasma methylated Sept9 gene in the colorectal cancer group, the colorectal polyps group and the healthy control group were 71.26% (62/87), 5.06% (4/79) and 3.23% (3/93) respectively, the differences were statistically significant ( $P < 0.05$ ). The positive expression of plasma methylated Sept9 gene was not related to the gender, age, tumor location, pathological type, vascular invasion and nerve invasion in the patients with colorectal cancer ( $P > 0.05$ ), but related to the maximum tumor diameter, infiltrating depth, differentiation degree, lymphatic metastasi and TNM staging ( $P < 0.05$ ). The positive expression rate [71.26%(62/87)] of plasma methylated Sept9 gene in the patients with colorectal cancer were higher than that 54.02% (47/87) of serum CEA, 35.63% (31/87) of CA199, 33.33% (29/87) of CA724 and 21.84% (19/87) of CA125, the differences were statistically significant ( $P < 0.05$ ). **Conclusion:** The plasma methylated Sept9 gene is highly expressed in the patients with colorectal cancer, so early detection of the expression level of the methylated Sept9 gene has important significance in the early diagnosis and assessment of colorectal cancer.

**Key words:** Colorectal cancer; Sept9 gene; Methylated; PCR; Clinical pathological characteristics

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## 前言

结直肠癌是胃肠道常见的恶性肿瘤,其发病率在世界范围内居各类恶性肿瘤第三,各国每年死于结直肠癌的病例约60万,严重威胁人类健康及生命安全<sup>[1,2]</sup>。结直肠癌同样是我国三大癌症之一,每年新发病例近10万,死亡近5万,且发病率和死亡率均呈上升的趋势<sup>[3]</sup>。既往研究证实,早期诊断和治疗可显著提高患者生存率和改善预后<sup>[4]</sup>。目前结直肠癌的早期筛查手段主要包括粪便隐血试验、粪便免疫化学检测、血清肿瘤标记物检测及结肠镜检查等,但由于粪便采集不便、血清肿瘤标记物检测的敏感性和特异性较低、结肠镜属于侵入性操作等原因,在临床实践中,结直肠癌的早期诊断率仍然较低,约80%的患者在确诊时已经处于中晚期,因而探寻早期诊断方法意义重大<sup>[5-7]</sup>。结直肠癌的发生与发展通常伴有诸多表观遗传学改变,其中某些基因子区域DNA长期甲基化,外周血细胞游离DNA中有许多甲基化分子标志物,其中以Sept9基因甲基化备受关注<sup>[8-10]</sup>。本文探讨甲基化Sept9基因在结直肠癌患者血浆中的阳性表达率及与患者临床病理特征的关系,以期为结直肠癌的早期诊断及治疗方案的制定提供参考。

## 1 资料和方法

### 1.1 一般资料

选择2015年1月~2017年3月经陕西省人民医院病理证实的结直肠癌患者87例作为结直肠癌组,结直肠息肉患者79例作为结直肠肉组。纳入标准:(1)所有入选者临床病历资料完整;(2)结直肠癌组、结直肠息肉组患者均经病理检查确诊;(3)结直肠癌组、结直肠息肉组均于术前采集血标本,所有患者均完成本研究中的所有调查项目。排除标准:(1)合并其他恶性肿瘤或有恶性肿瘤史者;(2)有放疗、化疗史者;(3)有凝血功能障碍或血小板异常者;(4)妊娠或哺乳期妇女;(5)检测中的无效样本。另选同期来我院体检的健康者93例作为健康对照组。结直肠癌组,男54例,女33例;年龄34~82岁,平均(56.32±9.78)岁;结肠癌51例,直肠癌36例。结直肠息肉组,男49例,女30例;年龄31~81岁,平均(55.78±10.76)岁;结肠息肉46例,直肠息肉33例。健康对照组,男57例,女36例;年龄32~79岁,平均(54.46±8.95)岁。三组患者的年龄、性别比较差异无统计学意义( $P>0.05$ ),病变位置分布结直肠癌组与结直肠息肉组比较差异无统计学意义( $P>0.05$ )。本研究经医院伦理委员会审核批准。

### 1.2 方法

采用实时荧光定量聚合酶链式反应(Quantitative Real-time Polymerase Chain Reaction, QRT-PCR)技术检测所有对象外周血血浆Sept9基因甲基化情况<sup>[11]</sup>。

**1.2.1 血标本采集** 所有对象均于清晨采集外周静脉血10mL,结直肠癌组和结直肠息肉组均于术前采集血样本,健康对照组于体检当日清晨采集。血样本静置分层后,常规离心2次后,留取血浆3.5mL,保存于-20℃冰箱待测。

**1.2.2 基因组DNA提取** 将保存的血浆移至室温(37℃)复苏30min,采用GenMagSpin血浆游离DNA提取试剂盒(品牌GenMagSpin,购于北京金麦格生物技术有限公司)提取游离血

浆中的DNA,严格按照试剂盒说明进行操作,获取100μL的DNA洗脱液;然后采用亚硫酸溶液(基因组DNA提取试剂盒中的溶液)与DNA洗脱液结合,其中已发生甲基化的DNA会被磁珠吸附直接提取,未发生甲基化的DNA通过脱氨基反应进行转化,依次采用试剂盒中的洗涤液A 800μL、洗涤液B 800μL、洗涤液B 400μL洗涤,3次洗涤后洗脱1次,获取经亚硫酸转化的DNA洗脱液60μL,封存于96板孔,置于2~8℃的温箱保存。

**1.2.3 荧光探针PCR检测** 采用美国ABI公司生产的ABI 7500 Fast型荧光定量PCR仪进行监测,首先采用具有高灵敏度的PCR试剂盒(荧光定量PCR试剂盒:Epi proColon Sensitivity PCR Kit,M5-02-002,购于上海恪敏生物科技有限公司)重复3次双重平行PCR扩增,严格按照试剂盒说明进行操作,测定经亚硫酸转化的DNA,检测发生甲基化的Sept9基因。PCR反应程序:25℃ 10 min,42℃ 30 min,85℃ 5 min,1个循环。PCR循环体系为20μL,循环参数:初始50℃ 2 min,95℃ 15 min;1个循环后,94℃ 20s,60℃ 1 min,采集荧光信号;总共45个循环后,72℃ 3 min,1个循环后结束。以中性对照和阴性对照DNA作为质控标准,质控试剂盒(Epi proColon Control Kit,M5-02-003)与荧光定量PCR试剂盒由同一厂家提供,严格按照试剂盒说明进行操作。结果判断标准<sup>[12]</sup>:采用荧光定量PCR仪所带的7500 Fast PCR软件进行判读,在确保质控对照样品有效、样本总的DNA量足够的前提下,以甲基化Sept9基因PCR的Ct值(每个反应管内的荧光信号达到设定的阈值时所经历的循环数)<45.0为阳性结果,共进行3次PCR检测,2次阳性认为样本阳性,2次阴性认为样本阴性。

**1.2.4 血清肿瘤标记物检测** 所有对象均另采集清晨空腹静脉血3mL,常规离心后取血清,采用电化学发光法检测各组研究对象的血清癌胚抗原(Carcino-embryonic antigen,CEA)、糖蛋白抗原199(Carbohydrate antigen199,CA199)、CA724和CA125的阳性表达率,均采用罗氏E-70电化学发光免疫分析仪和罗氏E-70专用试剂盒(试剂盒购于北京伯乐生命科学发展有限公司)进行检测,严格按照试剂盒说明进行操作,判断标准:CEA≥10 ng/mL为阳性,<10 ng/mL为阴性;CA199≥40 U/mL为阳性,<40 U/mL为阴性;CA724≥10 U/mL为阳性,<10 U/mL为阴性;CA125≥35 U/mL为阳性,<35 U/mL为阴性<sup>[13]</sup>。

### 1.3 观察指标

(1)各组甲基化Sept9基因阳性表达情况:记录比较三组样本血浆的甲基化Sept9基因阳性表达率。(2)甲基化Sept9基因阳性表达率与结直肠癌患者临床病理特征的关系:比较不同年龄(<60岁,≥60岁)、性别、肿瘤部位(近端:包括回盲肠、升结肠、结肠肝曲;远端:包括结肠脾曲、降结肠、乙状结肠、直肠)、肿瘤最大径(>5 cm,≤5 cm)、浸润深度(SM1:黏膜下层浸润深度≤1 mm;SM2:黏膜下层浸润深度>1 mm)、分化程度(高、中、低分化)、病理分型(腺癌、非腺癌)、有无淋巴结转移、有无血管侵犯、有无神经侵犯、TNM分期(I、II、III、IV期)患者血浆甲基化Sept9基因阳性表达率的差异。(3)比较结直肠癌患者甲基化Sept9基因阳性表达率与CEA、CA199、CA724和CA125阳性表达率之间的差异。

## 1.4 统计学方法

本研究中所有数据均采用 SPSS18.0 软件进行统计学分析, 甲基化 Sept9 基因、CEA、CA199、CA724 和 CA125 阳性表达率等计数资料以率(%)描述, 采用  $\chi^2$  检验; 以  $P < 0.05$  为差异有统计学意义。

## 2.1 三组甲基化 Sept9 基因阳性表达率比较

三组甲基化 Sept9 基因阳性表达率整体比较, 差异有统计学意义( $P < 0.05$ ), 结直肠癌组甲基化 Sept9 基因阳性表达率分别高于结直肠癌息肉组与健康对照组, 差异均有统计学意义( $P < 0.05$ ), 见表 1。

## 2 结果

表 1 三组甲基化 Sept9 基因阳性表达率比较[n(%)]

Table 1 Comparison of methylated Sept9 gene positive rates among three groups[n(%)]

| Groups                  | n  | Positive of methylated Sept9 gene | Negative of methylated Sept9 gene |
|-------------------------|----|-----------------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| Colorectal cancer group | 87 | 62(71.26)                         | 25(28.74)                         |
| Colorectal polyps group | 79 | 4(5.06)*                          | 75(94.94)                         |
| Healthy control group   | 93 | 3(3.23)*                          | 90(96.77)                         |
| $\chi^2$                |    | 41.214                            |                                   |
| P                       |    | 0.000                             |                                   |

Note: Compared with colorectal cancer group, \* $P < 0.05$ .

## 2.2 甲基化 Sept9 基因阳性表达与结直肠癌患者临床病理特征的关系

结直肠癌组 87 例患者中, 不同性别、年龄、肿瘤部位、病理分型、血管侵犯、神经侵犯患者血浆甲基化 Sept9 基因阳性表

达率比较, 差异无统计学意义( $P > 0.05$ ); 甲基化 Sept9 基因阳性表达率与肿瘤最大径、浸润深度、分化程度、淋巴结转移、TNM 分期有关( $P < 0.05$ ), 见表 2。

表 2 不同临床病理特征的结直肠癌患者甲基化 Sept9 基因阳性表达率比较[n(%)]

Table 2 Comparison of methylated Sept9 gene positive rates among patients with colorectal cancer with different clinical pathological characteristics [n(%)]

| Clinical pathological characteristics | n                  | Methylated Sept9 gene |           | $\chi^2$ | P     |
|---------------------------------------|--------------------|-----------------------|-----------|----------|-------|
|                                       |                    | Positive              | Negative  |          |       |
| Age( years )                          | <60                | 48                    | 33(68.75) | 0.894    | 0.772 |
|                                       | ≥ 60               | 39                    | 29(74.36) |          |       |
| Gender                                | Male               | 54                    | 38(70.37) | 0.483    | 0.817 |
|                                       | Female             | 33                    | 24(72.73) |          |       |
| Tumor location                        | Proximal           | 19                    | 15(78.95) | 1.337    | 0.325 |
|                                       | Distal             | 68                    | 47(69.12) |          |       |
| Maximum tumor diameter                | ≤ 5 cm             | 53                    | 31(58.49) | 7.638    | 0.012 |
|                                       | >5 cm              | 34                    | 31(91.18) |          |       |
| Infiltrating depth                    | SM1                | 22                    | 9(40.91)  | 7.411    | 0.015 |
|                                       | SM2                | 65                    | 53(81.54) |          |       |
| Differentiated degree                 | High               | 21                    | 12(57.14) | 5.133    | 0.031 |
|                                       | Medium             | 51                    | 39(76.47) |          |       |
|                                       | Low                | 15                    | 11(73.33) |          |       |
| Pathological type                     | Glandular cancer   | 78                    | 57(73.08) | 1.784    | 0.218 |
|                                       | Non adenocarcinoma | 9                     | 5(55.56)  |          |       |
| Lymphatic metastasis                  | Yes                | 37                    | 30(81.08) | 4.562    | 0.041 |
|                                       | No                 | 50                    | 32(64.00) |          |       |
| Vascular invasion                     | Yes                | 35                    | 26(74.29) | 0.025    | 0.978 |
|                                       | No                 | 52                    | 36(69.23) |          |       |
| Nerve invasion                        | Yes                | 70                    | 49(70.00) | 0.027    | 0.973 |
|                                       | No                 | 17                    | 13(76.47) |          |       |
| TNM staging                           | Stage I            | 16                    | 6(37.50)  | 6.375    | 0.027 |
|                                       | Stage II           | 25                    | 20(80.00) |          |       |
|                                       | Stage III          | 35                    | 27(77.14) |          |       |
|                                       | Stage IV           | 11                    | 9(81.82)  |          |       |

### 2.3 甲基化 Sept9 基因与主要肿瘤标志物阳性表达率比较

结直肠癌组 87 例患者, 甲基化 Sept9 基因阳性表达率最高, 其次依次为 CEA、CA199、CA724、CA125, 结直肠癌患者甲

基化 Sept9 基因阳性表达率分别与 CA724、CA199、CA125、CEA 阳性表达率比较, 差异均有统计学意义 ( $P < 0.05$ ), 见表 3。

表 3 甲基化 Sept9 基因与主要肿瘤标志物阳性表达率比较[n(%)]

Table 3 Comparison of methylated Sept9 gene with positive rates of main tumor markers[n(%)]

| Indexes               | n  | Positive   | Negative  |
|-----------------------|----|------------|-----------|
| Methylated Sept9 gene | 87 | 62(71.26)  | 25(28.74) |
| CEA                   | 87 | 47(54.02)* | 40(45.98) |
| CA199                 | 87 | 31(35.63)* | 56(64.37) |
| CA724                 | 87 | 29(33.33)* | 58(66.67) |
| CA125                 | 87 | 19(21.84)* | 68(78.16) |

Note: Compared with methylated Sept9 gene, \* $P < 0.05$ .

## 3 讨论

结直肠癌是一种严重危害人类健康、威胁人类生命安全的恶性肿瘤, 早期接受治疗可显著延长患者的生存时间, 改善预后。若拖延至中晚期, 则患者的术后生存时间显著缩短, 复发率明显提高<sup>[14,15]</sup>。早期诊断是早期治疗的前提, 但在临床实践中, 约 80% 的患者已处于中晚期才得以确诊, 不利于提高治疗效果, 因而关于结直肠癌的早期诊断问题, 一直是广大学者共同关注的重点热点课题。目前对结直肠癌的早期筛查中, 主要手段包括结肠镜(包括普通结肠镜和弯曲乙状结肠镜)、愈创木脂化学法粪便隐血试验、免疫化学粪便隐血试验、粪便 DNA 检测、CT 结肠成像、血清肿瘤标志物检查等。但各种方法均存在一定的局限, 结肠镜虽能有效检出结直肠癌和恶性腺癌性息肉, 但属于侵入性有创操作, 检查前对肠道准备要求高, 易造成肠穿孔; 粪便隐血试验、粪便 DNA 检测等诊断结直肠癌的敏感性较低; CT 结肠成像虽然无创, 但其敏感性与病灶大小有关, 对病灶直径  $< 1 \text{ cm}$  者的敏感性低; 单个血清肿瘤标志物指标的敏感性低<sup>[16,17]</sup>。

结直肠癌的发生与发展是多种因素共同作用的结果, 但其具体发病机制目前尚不十分确切, 多认为与癌基因和抑癌基因突变及表观遗传学改变有关<sup>[18-20]</sup>。既往研究表明结直肠癌患者外周血细胞游离 DNA 中有许多甲基化分子标志物<sup>[21-23]</sup>。异常 DNA 甲基化和蛋白修饰异常引起致癌基因过度表达、抑癌基因表达缺失是结直肠癌发生与发展的重要机制, 其中 Sept9 基因甲基化被认为与结直肠癌密切相关。Sept9 基因是细胞质分裂相关的 Septin 基因家族成员, 位于染色体 17q25.3, 在 5' 端调控区有 CpG 岛。Sept9 基因表达 Sept9 蛋白, Sept9 蛋白的生理功能是为细胞分裂提供结构支持, 在细胞分裂中发挥重要作用, 其参与了细胞分裂、极化、胞膜重构和囊泡运输等生理过程<sup>[24,25]</sup>。正常 Sept9 基因具有抑癌作用, 甲基化后基因转录受到抑制, 导致细胞分裂与凋亡、囊泡运输异常, 使其抑癌功能丧失<sup>[26,27]</sup>。

本研究中, 甲基化 Sept9 基因在结直肠癌患者中的阳性表达率显著高于结直肠息肉组和健康对照组 ( $P < 0.05$ )。这提示, 结直肠癌患者外周血血浆中甲基化 Sept9 基因呈高表达状态, 早期检测甲基化 Sept9 基因可作为结直肠癌早期诊断的有效指标<sup>[28]</sup>。研究中, 87 例结直肠癌患者甲基化 Sept9 基因阳性 62 例, 79 例结直肠息肉患者甲基化 Sept9 基因阳性 4 例, 93 例健

康体检者甲基化 Sept9 基因阳性 3 例。结直肠癌患者外周血血浆甲基化 Sept9 基因阳性率高于血清肿瘤标志物 (CEA、CA199、CA724 和 CA125) 的阳性率。结直肠癌患者外周血血浆中甲基化 Sept9 基因阳性表达率与患者性别、年龄、肿瘤部位、病理分型、血管侵犯、神经侵犯等因素无关, 与肿瘤最大径、浸润深度、分化程度、淋巴结转移、TNM 分期等有关, 这提示早期检测甲基化 Sept9 基因阳性表达可为判断结直肠癌病灶大小、分化情况、淋巴结转移情况及 TNM 分期等提供有效的信息<sup>[29,30]</sup>, 但无法根据甲基化 Sept9 基因表达情况判断肿瘤部位以及是否有血管、神经侵犯, 也不能据此对肿瘤进行病理分型。

综上所述, 结直肠癌患者外周血血浆甲基化 Sept9 基因呈高表达状态, 早期检测甲基化 Sept9 基因表达水平在结直肠癌的诊断中有重要意义, 有助于评估肿瘤病灶大小、分化情况、淋巴结转移及临床分期。

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