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肾上腺髓质切除对慢性间歇性缺氧大鼠的血管重塑作用 *

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摘要 目的:探究肾上腺髓质切除对慢性间歇性缺氧(CIH)大鼠的血管重塑作用。**方法:**将32只大鼠随机分为慢性间歇性空气(CIA)假手术组、CIA手术组、CIH假手术组、CIH手术组。制备CIH模型,手术组在缺氧前行肾上腺髓质切除术,假手术组行相同操作但不切除肾上腺髓质。测量尾动脉血压;ELISA法检测血清肾上腺素(E)、去甲肾上腺素(NE)含量;HE、Masson染色和荧光显微镜观察胸主动脉形态,计算胸主动脉中膜厚度、胶原容积分数和弹性纤维紊乱断裂比例;IHC观察胸主动脉α-平滑肌肌动蛋白(α-SMA)表达;TUNEL观察胸主动脉细胞凋亡率;WB检测胸主动脉天冬氨酸半胱氨酸酶-3(Caspase-3)蛋白表达。**结果:**与CIA假手术组比较,CIH假手术组E、NE、尾动脉收缩压、舒张压、胸主动脉中膜厚度、胶原容积分数、弹性纤维紊乱断裂比例、α-SMA水平、细胞凋亡率、Caspase-3表达升高($P<0.05$);与CIH假手术组比较,CIH手术组E、NE、尾动脉收缩压、舒张压、胸主动脉中膜厚度、胶原容积分数、弹性纤维紊乱断裂比例、α-SMA水平、细胞凋亡率、Caspase-3表达降低($P<0.05$)。**结论:**切除肾上腺髓质可改善由慢性间歇性缺氧引起的大鼠胸主动脉重塑。

关键词:慢性间歇性缺氧;肾上腺髓质;血管重塑

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Effect of Adrenal Medulectomy on Vascular Remodeling in Chronic Intermittent Hypoxia Rats*

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ABSTRACT Objective: To investigate the effect of adrenomedulectomy on vascular remodeling in rats with chronic intermittent hypoxia (CIH). **Methods:** Thirty-two rats were randomly divided into chronic intermittent air (CIA) sham-operated group, CIA operated group, CIH sham-operated group and CIH operated group. The CIH model was established. The operation group underwent adrenomedulectomy before hypoxia, and the sham-operation group underwent the same operation without adrenomedulectomy. Blood pressure of tail artery was measured. The levels of epinephrine (E) and norepinephrine (NE) in serum were detected by ELISA. HE and Masson staining and fluorescence microscopy were used to observe the morphology of thoracic aorta, and the thickness of thoracic aorta media, collagen volume fraction and the proportion of elastic fiber disorder and rupture were calculated. The expression of α-smooth muscle actin (α-SMA) in thoracic aorta was observed by IHC. TUNEL was used to observe the apoptosis rate of thoracic aorta cells. Western blot was used to detect the expression of Caspase-3 protein in thoracic aorta. **Results:** Compared with the CIA sham-operation group, the E, NE, tail artery systolic blood pressure, diastolic blood pressure, thoracic aortic media thickness, collagen volume fraction, proportion of elastic fiber disorder and rupture, α-SMA level, apoptosis rate and Caspase-3 expression were significantly increased in the CIH sham-operation group ($P<0.05$). Compared with CIH sham-operation group, the E, NE, systolic blood pressure and diastolic blood pressure of tail artery, thoracic aortic media thickness, collagen volume fraction, proportion of elastic fiber disorder and rupture, α-SMA level, apoptosis rate and Caspase-3 expression were significantly decreased in CIH operation group ($P<0.05$). **Conclusion:** Adrenomedulectomy can improve thoracic aorta remodeling induced by chronic intermittent hypoxia in rats.

Key words: Chronic intermittent hypoxia; Adrenal medulla; Vascular remodeling

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前言

阻塞型睡眠呼吸暂停综合征 (obstructive sleep apnea syndrome, OSAS) 在世界范围内普遍存在, 据估计, 全球有 9.36 亿和 4.25 亿在 30-69 岁的成年人患有轻度和中重度 OSAS^[1]。OSAS 特征是睡眠时呼吸反复停顿, 导致上气道塌陷和慢性间歇性缺氧 (chronic intermittent hypoxia, CIH)^[2]。OSAS 作为一种全身性疾病, 是心血管疾病的独立因素^[3-6]。因此, 研究 CIH 的致病机制对于心血管疾病防治意义重大。

肾上腺髓质 (adrenal medulla, AM) 是重要的内分泌器官, 已有研究表明 AM 产生的肾上腺髓质素、肾上腺紧张素等多种血管活性物质, 在血管紧张度、血管重塑和血管形态等方面发挥关键作用^[7]。CIH 可引起 AM 功能重塑、分泌失衡、交感神经异常兴奋^[8]。低氧能够刺激交感神经、颈动脉窦等外周化学感受器, 引起 AM 内肾上腺素 (epinephrine, E) 与去甲肾上腺素 (norepinephrine, NE) 分泌增加及内源性洋地黄样因子释放并造成血管平滑肌增生、肥大^[9]。有研究表明切断 AM 交感神经可抑制 CIH 引起的血液中儿茶酚胺 (catecholamine, CA) 浓度升高^[10]。但目前关于 AM 对血管重塑的作用及潜在机制报道较少, 因此, 本研究通过探讨 AM 对 CIH 大鼠胸主动脉重塑的影响, 以期为临床防治 OSAS 提供实验基础。

1 材料与方法

1.1 实验动物与材料

32 只雄性 SD 大鼠 (180-220 g) 购自新疆医科大学实验动物中心, 许可证号: SCXK(新)2018-0001。间歇氧浓度实验系统购自上海玉研科学仪器有限公司, 大鼠智能无创血压计 (BP2010A) 购自北京软隆生物技术有限公司, 血清 ELISA 检测试剂盒 (JL13969-48T、JL13428-48T) 购自上海江莱生物科技有限公司, Masson 染色试剂盒 (G1340)、SDS-PAGE 凝胶制备试剂盒 (P1200) 购自北京索莱宝生物科技有限公司, α -SMA 抗体 (A7248) 购自武汉爱博泰克生物科技有限公司, TUNEL 细胞凋亡检测试剂盒 (PF00009)、Caspase-3 抗体 (19677-1-AP) 购自武汉三鹰生物技术有限公司, 免疫组化试剂盒购自武汉伊莱瑞特生物科技股份有限公司。

1.2 动物模型建立

将 32 只大鼠随机分为慢性间歇性空气 (chronic intermittent air, CIA) 假手术组、CIA 手术组、CIH 假手术组、CIH 手术组。参照文献^[11], 手术组大鼠用 10% 水合氯醛 ($4 \text{ mL} \cdot \text{kg}^{-1}$) 麻醉, 腰部区域剃毛、碘伏消毒。在第一和第三腰椎间行 1 cm 背中线切口, 从双侧脊柱侧面肌肉壁进入蚊式钳。露出双侧肾上腺囊并切小口, 用无创钳挤出髓质, 将肾上腺皮脂囊放回腹腔, 缝合切口; 假手术组大鼠进行相同操作, 但不进行肾上腺髓质切除。手术完成后, 将 CIH 组大鼠于每日 9:00-21:00 放入低氧舱内, 向低氧舱循环充入氮气和氧气, 每循环 1 min, 由测氧仪监测并调节低氧舱中的氧浓度, 使每循环低氧舱内的最低氧浓度达到 6% 左右, 再逐渐恢复至 21%。连续进行实验 4 周。CIA 组大鼠步骤同 CIH 组, 通入相同流量的空气。

1.3 无创血压测量及标本获取

每 3 天测量各组大鼠的体重与尾动脉血压。造模结束后,

腹腔注射 10% 水合氯醛麻醉大鼠, 打开腹腔, 腹主动脉取血 4-5 mL, 静置 30 min 后, $3000 \text{ r} \cdot \text{min}^{-1}$ 离心 15 min, 取上清于 -20 °C 保存, 分离胸主动脉, 一部分使用 4% 多聚甲醛进行固定、包埋、切片, 另一部分放入干净离心管 -80 °C 保存。

1.4 酶联免疫吸附试验 (Enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay, ELISA)

检测血清 E、NE 含量严格按照试剂盒说明书进行检测。

1.5 苏木素伊红 (Hematoxylin and eosin, HE) 染色

将胸主动脉固定在 4% 多聚甲醛中, 梯度乙醇脱水、浸蜡和包埋。制成 4 μm 石蜡切片, HE 染色, 光镜与荧光显微镜下观察并随机选取 5 个视野拍照, ImageJ 分析、计算胸主动脉中膜厚度与中膜弹性纤维紊乱断裂数占弹性纤维总数的比值。

1.6 Masson 染色

在胸主动脉组织石蜡切片的基础上, 经苏木精和丽春红酸性复合液染色, 对切片进行 1% 磷钼酸分化、苯胺蓝染色、脱水封片, 拍照并计算胶原容积分数 (Collagen volume fraction, CVF) 即胶原面积 (蓝色着色) 占血管壁总面积百分比。

1.7 免疫组织化学 (Immunohistochemistry, IHC) 染色

在胸主动脉组织石蜡切片的基础上, 对切片进行二甲苯脱蜡、梯度乙醇脱水、柠檬酸溶液于 95 °C 水浴锅中恒温修复 30 min, PBST 洗涤, 山羊血清室温封闭 30 min。 α -SMA 一抗 (1:100) 4 °C 孵育过夜, PBST 洗涤, 加入辣根过氧化物酶标记的山羊抗鼠 IgG 抗体, 室温反应 30 min, PBST 洗涤, 加入 DAB 和苏木精显色, 脱水透明, 中性树胶封片, 显微镜下观察。

1.8 凋亡 (TdT-mediated dUTP Nick-End Labeling, TUNEL) 染色

在胸主动脉组织石蜡切片的基础上, 进行二甲苯脱蜡、蛋白酶 K 孵育、PBST 洗涤、平衡缓冲液孵育、TUNEL 反应混合液孵育, 4',6'-二脒基-2-苯基吲哚 (4',6-diamidino-2-phenylindole, DAPI) 孵育及抗荧光淬灭剂封片后, 荧光显微镜观察, 计算 5 个视野中细胞凋亡率。

1.9 蛋白免疫印迹 (Western blotting) 检测 Caspase-3 的表达

提取大鼠胸主动脉组织总蛋白, BCA 法蛋白定量后电泳、转膜、封闭, 分别用一抗 Caspase-3 (1:500) 和 β -actin (1:10000) 4 °C 孵育过夜, 随后常温孵育二抗 2 h, 扫描条带, Image J 分析灰度值。

1.10 统计学方法

采用 SPSS 和 GraphPad 软件对数据进行处理和统计学分析。计量资料用 $\bar{x} \pm s$ 表示, 应用夏皮洛 - 威尔克 (Shapiro-Wilk) 进行正态性检验, 采用 Levene's 检验进行方差齐性检验, 方差齐者采用多因素方差分析, 方差不齐者采用 Welch 和 Brown-Forsythe 法, 方差齐者组间两两比较采用最小显著性差异法, 方差不齐者组间两两比较采用 Tamhane's T2 检验; $P < 0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。

2 结果

2.1 各组大鼠体重变化

四组大鼠体重差异无统计学意义 ($P > 0.05$) (图 1)。

2.2 各组大鼠尾动脉血压变化

与 CIA 假手术组相比, CIH 假手术组的收缩压与舒张压在第 6 天开始升高 ($P < 0.05$); 与 CIH 假手术组相比, CIH 手术组

的收缩压在缺氧第 15 天开始下降($P<0.05$),舒张压在缺氧第 21 天开始降低(图 2、表 1)。

2.3 血清 E、NE 含量

比较造模 4 周后各组大鼠血清 E 与 NE 含量,CIH 假手术组高于 CIA 假手术组($P<0.05$),CIA 手术组低于 CIA 假手术组($P<0.05$);CIH 手术组低于 CIH 假手术组($P<0.05$)。表明 CIH 可导致肾上腺髓质功能增强,切除肾上腺髓质后,血清中 E 与 NE 含量降低(图 3、表 2)。

2.4 肾上腺髓质切除可改善 CIH 引起的胸主动脉组织损伤

HE 结果显示:CIA 假手术组动脉管壁厚度正常,中膜厚度

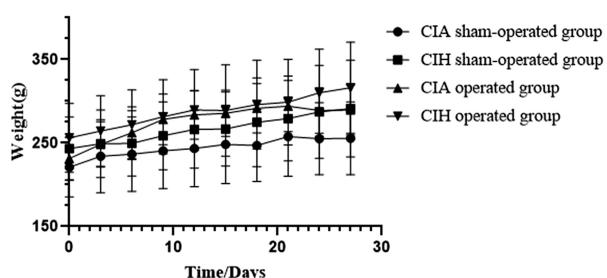


图 1 大鼠体重(g)

Fig.1 Rat Body Weight (g)

表 1 各组大鼠尾动脉血压(mmHg)

Table 1 Tail Artery Blood Pressure of rats in each group were measured(mmHg)

Index	Time(Days)	CIA sham-operated group	CIH sham-operated group	CIA operated group	CIH operated group
SBP	0	109.67±13.97	119.33±2.67	117.22±9.64	123.44±5.62
	3	119.78±3.66	123.00±0.58	117.28±5.11	123.11±6.01
	6	116.78±1.17	126.89±3.01*	113.89±5.36	130.11±8.20
	9	120.44±9.14	154.33±4.67*	127.33±8.68	137.89±7.73#
	12	104.78±5.48	151.22±2.83*	121.89±4.44	140.22±3.79*
	15	112.11±10.50	162.33±6.81*	129.67±14.86	140.89±6.80#
	18	117.11±10.21	160.00±5.20*	124.11±4.29	137.55±16.08#
	21	120.22±7.71	152.45±8.86*	119.11±4.25	135.11±8.53&#
	24	112.11±8.99	148.11±3.56*	116.78±2.53	130.89±7.65&#
	27	109.33±8.00	153.22±9.13*	102.78±3.37	136.45±11.44&#
DBP	0	82.45±11.51	77.11±11.42	84.00±8.51	81.56±6.44
	3	80.78±8.99	79.33±3.51	76.11±7.04	94.78±3.21&*
	6	86.11±2.83	104.44±2.22*	82.11±1.83	103.22±7.38*
	9	87.00±10.59	109.00±7.23*	93.67±2.33	92.89±13.19
	12	83.22±3.53	108.44±2.17*	86.67±14.52	97.89±3.33
	15	72.22±11.00	111.22±8.18*	85.33±13.61	93.67±11.05
	18	93.22±4.29	126.78±1.71*	88.45±15.31	104.44±18.02
	21	85.66±4.04	115.44±2.52*	87.89±2.03	100.11±2.50&#
	24	88.89±4.02	120.67±2.40*	86.00±4.33	104.00±4.81&#
	27	90.89±9.01	119.22±3.95*	100.44±3.10	102.55±6.94#

Note: *: $P<0.05$, Compared with CIA sham-operated group; #: $P<0.05$, Compared with CIH sham-operated group; &: $P<0.05$, Compared with CIA operated group.

及平滑肌细胞数目正常,细胞排列整齐,胞核淡染规则,多为短梭形。CIH 假手术组胸主动脉中膜显著增厚($P<0.05$),平滑肌纤维明显增生,细胞增多,排列紊乱,胞浆嗜酸伴空泡样变性,胞核深染不规则,以长杆状或长梭形为主。CIA 手术组胸主动脉中膜稍薄($P>0.05$),平滑肌数目减少,细胞核淡染规则,与 CIA 假手术组相比变化不明显。CIH 手术组胸主动脉中膜明显变薄($P<0.05$),平滑肌增生较 CIH 假手术组明显缓解,细胞排列整齐规整,胞浆粉染,细胞核深染改善、核形规则(图 4A、5A、表 3)。

荧光显微镜下 CIA 假手术组弹性纤维排列整齐,CIH 假手术组弹性纤维增粗,排列紊乱,部分弹性纤维断裂,弹性纤维紊乱断裂数占视野内弹性纤维总数增多($P<0.05$);CIH 手术组与 CIH 假手术组相比,弹性纤维分布较连续,弹性纤维紊乱断裂数占视野内弹性纤维总数减少($P<0.05$)(图 4B、5B、表 3)。

Masson 结果显示:CIA 假手术组胸主动脉管壁周围少许胶原沉积;CIH 假手术组较 CIA 假手术组胞核排列紊乱,可见大量胶原纤维沉积($P<0.05$);CIH 手术组与 CIH 假手术组相比,胶原沉积显著减少($P<0.05$)(图 4C、5C、表 3)。

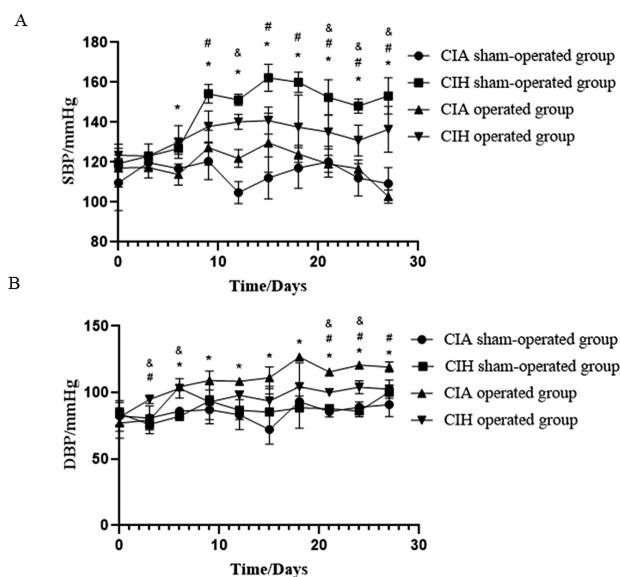


图 2 各组大鼠尾动脉血压

Fig.2 Tail Artery Blood Pressure of rats in each group were measured
Note: A: SBP; B: DBP; *: $P < 0.05$, Compared with CIA sham-operated group; #: $P < 0.05$, Compared with CIH sham-operated group; &: $P < 0.05$, Compared with CIA operated group.

IHC结果显示: CIH假手术组与CIA假手术组相比, α -SMA表达升高($P < 0.05$), 平滑肌细胞层数明显增多, 极性紊乱, 呈波浪状; CIA手术组细胞分布连续, 平滑肌细胞层数较CIA假手术组减少, 极性良好; CIH手术组较CIH假手术组 α -SMA阳性表达减少($P < 0.05$), 细胞层数减少, 极性较好且分布连续(图4D、5D、表3)。

2.5 各组大鼠胸主动脉平滑肌细胞凋亡率

凋亡信号显示为凋亡细胞核呈红色。与CIA假手术组相比, CIA手术组胞核凋亡信号减少($P < 0.05$), CIH假手术组平滑肌细胞凋亡率升高($P < 0.05$); CIH手术组较CIH假手术组凋亡率降低($P < 0.05$)(图6、图7、表3)。

2.6 胸主动脉组织 Caspase-3 表达

与CIA假手术组相比, CIH假手术组 Cleaved-Caspase-3蛋白表达升高($P < 0.05$); 与CIH假手术组相比, CIH手术组 Cleaved-Caspase-3蛋白表达降低($P < 0.05$)(图8、图9、表3)。

3 讨论

OSAS以CIH为特征,是心血管及慢性炎症性疾病的危险因素^[12,13]。CIH刺激外周化学感受器并激活交感神经系统,随后肾素、血管紧张素II和醛固酮增加,血管收缩活性增强^[14]。一系列的神经体液变化导致短时间内血压剧烈升高,引起血流动力学与剪切应力改变,损害血管结构,导致血管重塑^[15,16]。血管重塑是细胞增殖、死亡、迁移以及细胞外基质合成和降解所致的血管壁结构动态变化的过程^[17]。CIH可以诱导缺氧诱导因子(hypoxia-inducible factor, HIF)的表达、引发体内自由基增多,上调核转录因子 κ B水平,并最终促使如肿瘤坏死因子及白细胞介素8等多种炎症因子表达,导致氧化应激加重、血管过度增殖,促进心血管疾病的进展^[18,19]。研究发现,缺氧可诱导主动脉血管平滑细胞的异常增殖,并引起血管增殖性疾病,如肺动脉高压和动脉粥样硬化^[20,21]。血管平滑肌细胞(Vascular smooth muscle cells, VSMCs)被认为是心血管疾病进展的关键参与者,由于它们的过度增殖促进了斑块的形成,并且在晚期斑块中的存在阻止了斑块纤维帽的破裂,发展出一种促炎表型,产生负责增殖和趋化性的促炎介质^[22]。在炎症因子表达过程中,由外

表 2 各组大鼠血清 E、NE 含量(ng/mL)

Table 2 The levels of epinephrine and norepinephrine in serum of rats in each group were measured(ng/mL)

Index/Groups	CIA sham-operated group	CIH sham-operated group	CIA operated group	CIH operated group
E	7.94±0.47	11.15±2.48*	5.11±1.55*	7.29±0.96#
NE	5.30±0.85	6.76±0.79*	3.36±0.91*	5.09±0.46#&

Notes: *: $P < 0.05$, Compared with CIA sham-operated group; #: $P < 0.05$, Compared with CIH sham-operated group; &: $P < 0.05$, Compared with CIA operated group.

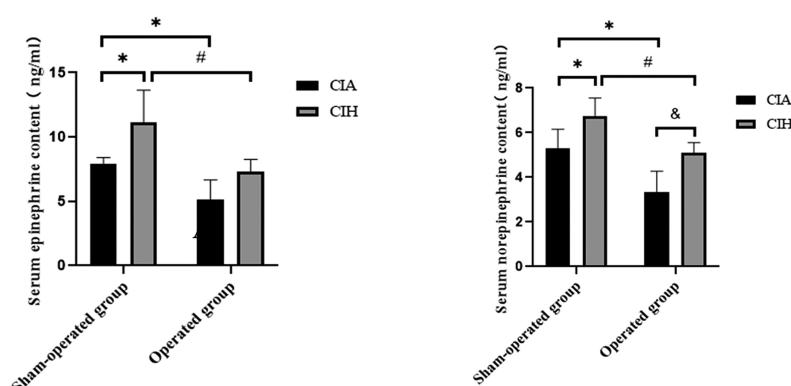


图 3 各组大鼠血清 E、NE 含量

Fig.3 The levels of epinephrine and norepinephrine in serum of rats in each group were measured

Note: A: Serum epinephrine content; B: Serum norepinephrine content; *: $P < 0.05$, Compared with CIA sham-operated group; #: $P < 0.05$, Compared with CIH sham-operated group; &: $P < 0.05$, Compared with CIA operated group

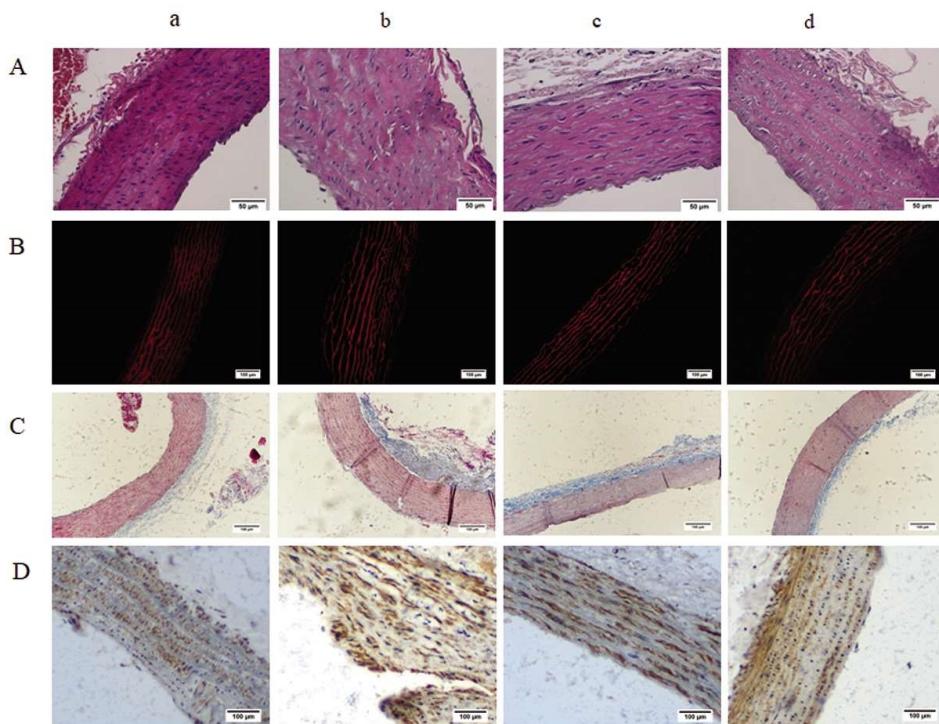


图 4 胸主动脉病理变化

Fig.4 Pathological changes of thoracic aorta

Note: a: CIA sham-operated group; b: CIH sham-operated group; c: CIA operated group; d: CIH operated group; A: Hematoxylin-eosin staining ($\times 400$); B: Elastic fibers were observed under fluorescence ($\times 200$); C: Masson staining ($\times 200$); D: Expression of α -SMA protein ($\times 400$).

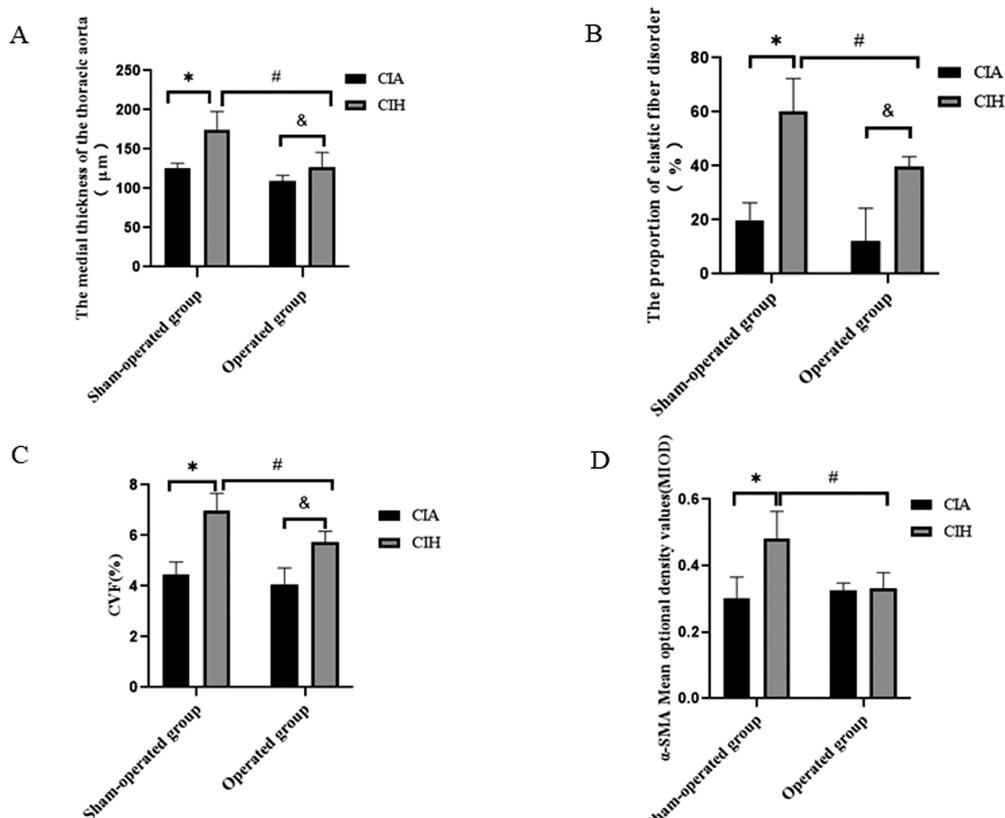
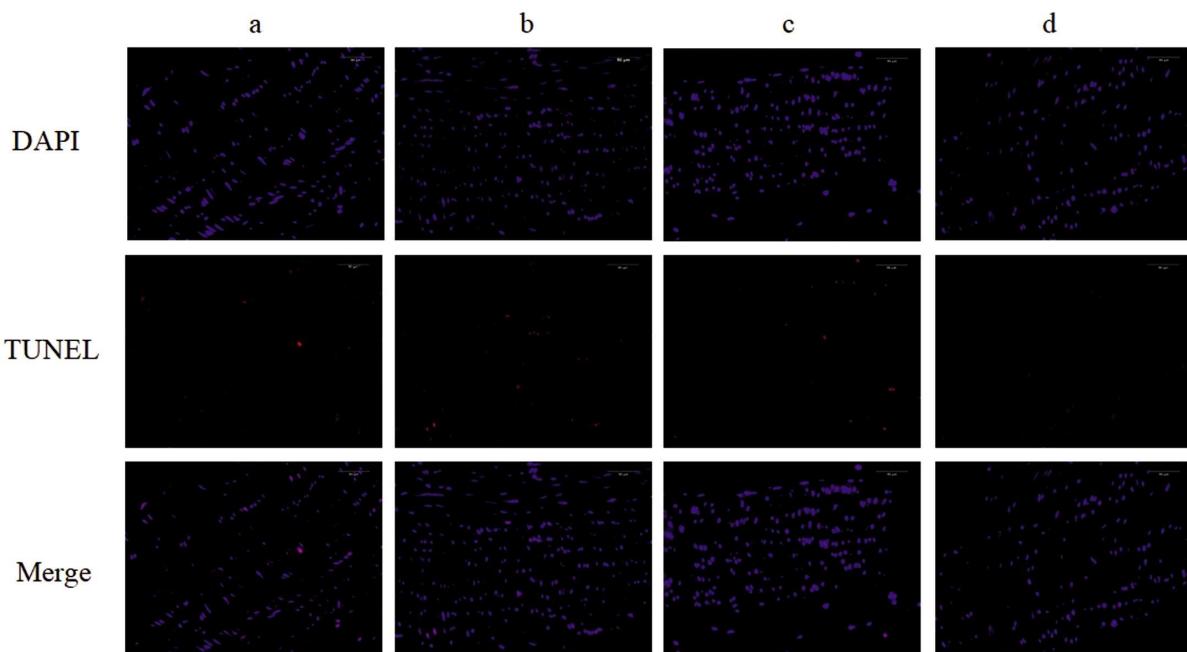


图 5 胸主动脉病理变化

Fig.5 Pathological changes of thoracic aorta

Note: A: The medial thickness of the thoracic aorta (μm); B: The proportion of elastic fiber fracture (%); C: Masson staining CVF (%); D: Expression of α -SMA; *: $P < 0.05$, Compared with CIA sham-operated group; #: $P < 0.05$, Compared with CIH sham-operated group; &: $P < 0.05$, Compared with CIA operated group.

图 6 各组大鼠胸主动脉平滑肌细胞凋亡改变($\times 400$)Fig.6 Changes in apoptosis levels of smooth muscle cells in thoracic aorta of rats in each group($\times 400$)

Note: a: CIA sham-operated group; b: CIH sham-operated group; c: CIA operated group; d: CIH operated group.

膜成纤维细胞的促炎信号招募,免疫细胞的浸润使旁分泌因子诱导巨噬细胞反过来刺激成纤维细胞生长,促进胶原蛋白的产生和平滑肌的增殖^[23-26]。

缺氧可引起交感神经激活^[27],可直接影响嗜铬细胞兴奋性引起AM功能增强,CA分泌增多。本研究ELISA法检测大鼠血清E、NE含量结果显示,与CIA假手术组相比,CIH假手术组大鼠血清E (7.94 ± 0.47 vs 11.15 ± 2.48)、NE (5.30 ± 0.85 vs 6.76 ± 0.79)含量升高($P < 0.05$),表明CIH可导致肾上腺髓质功能增强。切除肾上腺髓质后血清E、NE含量明显下降($P < 0.05$),而CIH手术组与CIA手术组比较,NE升高($P < 0.05$),E升高但无统计学意义($P > 0.05$),考虑与交感神经激活有关。

有研究表明肾上腺髓质功能增强可引起继发性高血压^[28],AM分泌的CA是CIH诱发高血压的主要原因^[29],双侧AM切除术可预防CIH引起的高血压和血浆CA增加以及急性缺氧引起的血压异常升高^[30]。本研究通过无创血压计检测大鼠尾动脉血压,结果显示,CIH假手术组与CIA假手术组相比,大鼠尾动脉收缩压(126.89 ± 3.01 vs 116.78 ± 1.17)、舒张压(104.44 ± 2.22 vs 86.11 ± 2.83)在第6天开始升高($P < 0.05$);CIH手术组与

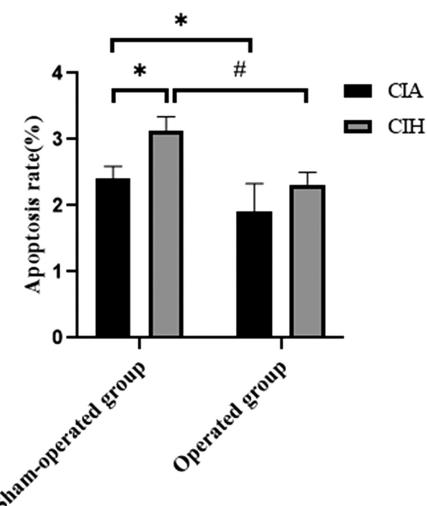


图 7 各组大鼠胸主动脉平滑肌细胞凋亡水平变化

Fig.7 Changes in apoptosis levels of smooth muscle cells in thoracic aorta

of rats in each group

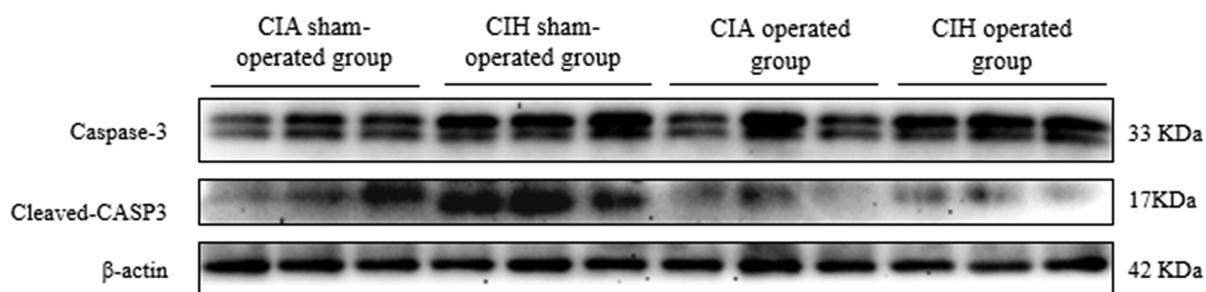
Note: *: $P < 0.05$, Compared with CIA sham-operated group, #: $P < 0.05$, Compared with CIH sham-operated group.

图 8 胸主动脉 Caspase-3 蛋白表达

Fig.8 Caspase-3 protein expression in thoracic aorta

表 3 各组大鼠胸主动脉中膜厚度、胶原容积分数、 α -SMA 阳性表达、弹性纤维紊乱断裂比例、细胞凋亡率和 Caspase-3 蛋白水平

Table 3 The thickness of thoracic aorta media, the volume fraction of collagen, the average optical density of immunohistochemical staining, the proportion of elastic fiber disorder and rupture, the apoptosis rate and the level of Caspase-3 protein in each group

Index	CIA sham-operated group	CIH sham-operated group	CIA operated group	CIH operated group
Medial thickness (um)	125.28±6.67	174.24±23.48*	109.35±7.24	127.20±18.51 ^{#&}
CVF(%)	4.46±0.49	6.98±0.68*	4.06±0.65	5.72±0.44 ^{#&}
MIOD(AD)	0.30±0.06	0.48±0.08*	0.32±0.02	0.33±0.05 [#]
Elastic fiber fracture (%)	19.95±6.39	60.10±12.17*	12.12±12.20	39.73±3.68 ^{#&}
Apoptotic rate (%)	2.41±0.18	3.12±0.22*	1.91±0.42*	2.32±0.18 [#]
Cleaved-Caspase 3/ Caspase 3	0.32±0.09	1.01±0.24*	0.57±0.10	0.44±0.11 [#]

Note: *: $P<0.05$, Compared with CIA sham-operated group; #: $P<0.05$, Compared with CIH sham-operated group; &: $P<0.05$, Compared with CIA operated group.

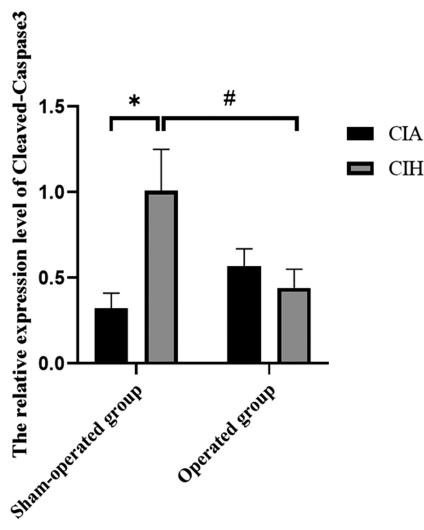


图 9 Cleaved-Caspase 3 蛋白的相对表达量

Fig.9 Relative expression of Cleaved-Caspase 3 protein

Note: *: $P<0.05$, Compared with CIA sham-operated group;
#: $P<0.05$, Compared with CIH sham-operated group.

CIH 假手术组相比, 收缩压(140.89 ± 6.80 vs 162.33 ± 6.81)在第 15 天开始持续降低($P<0.05$)、舒张压(100.11 ± 2.50 vs 115.44 ± 2.52)在第 21 天开始持续下降($P<0.05$), 可见肾上腺髓质切除可缓解 CIH 引起的血压升高。

HE 染色结果显示, CIH 假手术组与 CIA 假手术组相比, 胸主动脉中膜厚度(174.24 ± 23.48 vs 125.28 ± 6.67)增加($P<0.05$), 平滑肌纤维明显增生, 平滑肌细胞数量增多, 即 CIH 可导致 SMC 增殖, 与 Kyotani 的研究^[31]结果一致。CIH 手术组与 CIH 假手术组相比, 中膜厚度(127.20 ± 18.51 vs 174.24 ± 23.48)减小($P<0.05$), 说明肾上腺髓质切除可改善血管重塑中的 SMC 增殖。

IHC 结果显示, CIH 假手术组与 CIA 假手术组相比, α -SMA 阳性表达(0.48 ± 0.08 vs 0.30 ± 0.06)升高($P<0.05$), 细胞极性变差; AM 切除后, CIH 手术组与 CIH 假手术组相比, α -SMA 阳性表达(0.33 ± 0.05 vs 0.48 ± 0.08)降低($P<0.05$), α -SMA 可反映平滑肌细胞数量, 动脉血管壁平滑肌细胞数量与中膜厚度成正比, 结合 HE, 本研究结果显示, AM 切除可改善由 CIH 引起的平滑肌细胞增殖导致的中膜增厚。

Tunel 染色结果显示, CIH 假手术组与 CIA 假手术组相比, 胸主动脉组织中凋亡细胞数(3.12 ± 0.22 vs 2.41 ± 0.18)增多($P<0.05$), 说明 CIH 促进凋亡。AM 切除后, CIH 手术组与 CIH 假手术组相比, 细胞凋亡率(2.32 ± 0.18 vs 3.12 ± 0.22)下降($P<0.05$), 说明 AM 切除可改善 CIH 的促凋亡作用。有文献证明, CIH 可导致心肌细胞^[32]、神经细胞^[33]等多种细胞的凋亡, 本研究的结果与之相一致。

对胸主动脉组织的 Caspase-3 进行 Western blot 检测, 发现 CIH 假手术组与 CIA 假手术组相比, Cleaved-Caspase-3 蛋白相对表达量(1.01 ± 0.24 vs 0.32 ± 0.09)升高($P<0.05$), AM 切除后, CIH 手术组与 CIH 假手术组相比, Cleaved-Caspase-3 蛋白相对表达量(0.44 ± 0.11 vs 1.01 ± 0.24)降低($P<0.05$), 此实验结果与 Tunel 结果一致。

综上所述, CIH 可诱导胸主动脉血管重塑, AM 切除可改善由 CIH 引起的血管重塑, 其调控机制可能与 AM 分泌的激素变化有关, 还需进一步研究证实。

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