

· 临床研究 ·

腰椎退行性滑脱与棘间韧带 MRI 的 T2WI 高信号相关性分析

经齐峰, 沈水军, 董毅, 王俊, 周金柱

(杭州市萧山区第一人民医院放射科,浙江 杭州 311200)

【摘要】目的:探讨腰椎退行性滑脱与 MRI 棘间韧带 T2WI 高信号之间的关系,以提高对棘间韧带信号改变的认识。**方法:**收集 2018 年 3 月至 2020 年 3 月临床诊断为腰椎退行性滑脱 43 例患者的 MRI 资料,男 19 例,女 24 例,年龄 50~92 岁,平均 69 岁。利用影像归档和通信系统(picture archiving and communication systems, PACS)调阅影像,记录滑脱节段与非滑脱节段棘间韧带出现 T2WI 高信号的分布情况和发生率,利用 Spearman 分析棘间韧带的 T2WI 高信号与腰椎滑脱程度的关系。**结果:**除 8 条韧带因图像显示不佳未计入统计结果外,43 例患者共 207 个腰椎椎体和相应的棘间韧带入组研究。根据 Meyerding 分型法,43 例患者共有 48 个节段出现滑脱,I 度滑脱 41 个节段,II 度滑脱 7 个节段。滑脱节段对应的棘间韧带出现 T2WI 高信号 30 例,其中 L_{2,3} 节段 3 例,L_{3,4} 节段 3 例,L_{4,5} 节段 20 例,L_{5,S₁} 节段 4 例;159 个非滑脱节段对应的棘间韧带出现 T2WI 高信号 53 例,其中 L_{1,2} 节段 6 例,L_{2,3} 节段 6 例,L_{3,4} 节段 13 例,L_{4,5} 节段 7 例,L_{5,S₁} 节段 21 例。滑脱节段与非滑脱节段相比,棘间韧带 T2WI 高信号的发生率分别为 62.5% 和 33.3%,差异有统计学意义($\chi^2=13.06, P<0.05$)。**结论:**退行性腰椎滑脱患者中滑脱椎体的棘间韧带出现 T2WI 高信号更多见,T2WI 高信号的出现与椎体滑脱的程度呈正相关,在影像诊断中应引起足够重视。

【关键词】腰椎; 脊椎滑脱; 棘间韧带; 磁共振成像

中图分类号:R681.5

DOI: 10.12200/j.issn.1003-0034.2021.04.007

开放科学(资源服务)标识码(OSID):



Correlation analysis between degenerative spondylolisthesis and T2WI hyperintensity on MRI of interspinous ligament JING Qi-feng, SHEN Shui-jun, DONG Yi, WANG Jun, and ZHOU Jin-zhu. Department of Radiology, the First People's Hospital of Xiaoshan, Hangzhou 311200, Zhejiang, China

ABSTRACT Objective: To explore the relationship between lumbar degenerative spondylolisthesis and T2WI high signal in the interspinous ligament in MRI in order to improve the understanding of the signal changes of the interspinous ligament.

Methods: The clinical data of 43 patients with clinically diagnosed lumbar degenerative spondylolisthesis were collected from March 2018 to March 2020, there were 19 males and 24 females, aged 50 to 92 years with an average of 69 years old. Using picture archiving and communication systems (PACS) to access images and record the distribution and incidence of T2WI high signal in the interspinous ligament between the slipped and non-slipped segments. Using Spearman correlation analysis to explore the relationship between the T2WI high signal of the interspinous ligament and the degree of lumbar spondylolisthesis.

Results: Except for 8 ligaments that were not included in the statistical results due to poor image quality, 43 patients with a total of 207 lumbar vertebrae and interspinous ligaments were included in the study. According to the Meyerding classification method, 43 patients had a total of 48 segments with spondylolisthesis, 41 segments in grade I and 7 segments in grade II. There were 30 cases of MRI T2WI high signal in the interspinous ligament corresponding to spondylolisthesis segment, including 3 cases on L_{2,3} segment, 3 cases on L_{3,4} segment, 20 cases on L_{4,5} segment, and 4 cases on L_{5,S₁} segment. And there were 53 cases of MRI T2WI hyperintensity in 159 non-slipped interspinous ligaments, of which 6 cases were at L_{1,2}, 6 were at L_{2,3}, 13 were on L_{3,4}, 7 were on L_{4,5}, and 21 were on L_{5,S₁}. Compared with the non-slipped segment, the incidence of high signal on the T2WI of the interspinous ligament was 62.5% and 33.3%, respectively, and the difference was statistically significant ($\chi^2=13.06, P<0.05$). Spearman correlation analysis showed that the presence of T2WI hyperintensity of interspinous ligament was positively correlated with the degree of lumbar spondylolisthesis ($r=0.264, P<0.05$). **Conclusion:** In patients with degenerative lumbar spondylolisthesis, the MRI T2WI hyperintensity is more common in the interspinous ligament. The occurrence of T2WI high signal is positively correlated with the degree of spondylolisthesis, which should be paid enough attention in imaging di-

agnosis.

KEYWORDS Lumbar vertebrae; Spondylolisthesis; Interspinous ligament; Magnetic resonance imaging

腰椎退行性滑脱 (lumbar degenerative spondylolisthesis, LDS) 是由于腰椎退行性变引起的相邻椎体间的位置滑移,LDS 是导致中老年人下腰痛的一个重要原因。当前对于 LDS 的发生机制尚存争议^[1],以往的研究较多关注于关节面、椎间盘等的退变,对于构成脊柱后方重要解剖结构棘间韧带的研究较少。随着磁共振多参数成像能力和软组织分辨率的提升,对于棘间韧带的研究变得可行。为了进一步探索 LDS 和棘间韧带 T2WI 高信号之间的关系,提高对腰椎退行性滑脱中棘间韧带 T2WI 高信号的认识,笔者回顾分析了 2018 年 3 月至 2020 年 3 月确诊为腰椎退行性滑脱 43 例患者的 MRI 资料,现报告如下。

1 资料与方法

1.1 病例选择

纳入标准:经 MRI 检查,明确为腰椎退行性滑脱的患者;临床症状表现以下腰痛为主。

排除标准:腰椎具有峡部裂、创伤性、病理性骨折及先天发育不良患者;有腰椎手术史;肿瘤患者或有感染症状患者。

1.2 一般资料

本组 43 例,男 19 例,女 24 例;年龄 50~92 岁,平均 69 岁;病程 3 个月~8 年,平均(2.41±1.22)年;临幊上有下腰痛、下肢放射痛、肌力减退等症状。

1.3 观察项目与方法

1.3.1 MRI 检查方法 采用 Siemens Aera 1.5T 超导磁共振扫描,序列为矢状位 T1WI(TR/TE:679 ms/14 ms,层厚/层间隔:4 mm/0.4 mm,矩阵:384),矢状位 T2WI (TR/TE:4000 ms/95 ms,层厚/层间隔:4 mm/0.4 mm,矩阵:384),矢状位 T2WI 抑脂(TR/TE:4890 ms/95 ms,层厚/层间隔:4 mm/0.4 mm,矩阵:320),横断位 T2WI (TR/TE:4000 ms/94 ms,层厚/层间隔:4 mm/0.4 mm,矩阵:320)。

1.3.2 测量方法 将 MRI 扫描获得的图像资料传输至影像归档

和通信系统(picture archiving and communication systems,PACS)工作站,由 2 位放射科副主任医师进行阅片测量,记录滑脱节段与非滑脱节段棘间韧带出现 T2WI 高信号的分布情况和发生率,对于存在争议的则由第 3 位主任医师介入,最终结果遵循少数服从多数原则。滑脱的分度采用 Meyerding 分度标准:I 度,头端椎体在尾端椎体上水平向前或向后移位≤25%;II 度,椎体移位 26%~50%;III 度,椎体移位 51%~75%;IV 度,椎体移位≥76%。棘间韧带的 T2WI 高信号定义为:在 MRI 的 T2WI 序列矢状位上出现的两棘突间的条带状高信号影,T1WI 上可为低或高信号(见图 1,2)。

1.4 统计学处理

采用 SPSS 22 软件,计数资料使用卡方检验和 Fisher 确切概率法,相关性检验使用 Spearman 等级检验,设定当 $P<0.05$ 差异有统计学意义。

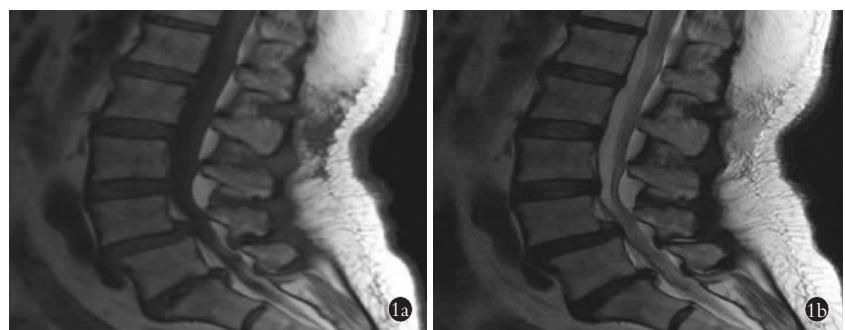


图 1 一名 59 岁女性患者的腰椎 MRI 示 L₄ 椎体向前 I 度滑移,矢状位上 L_{4,5} 棘间韧带表现为 T1WI 低信号,T2WI 高信号(箭头所示) 1a. T1WI 图像 1b. T2WI 图像

Fig.1 An MRI image of the lumbar spine of a 59-year-old female patient. MRI showed that the L₄ vertebral body slipped forward by one degree, and the L_{4,5} interspinous ligament in the sagittal plane showed low signal on T1WI and high signal on T2WI (arrow) 1a. T1WI image 1b. T2WI image

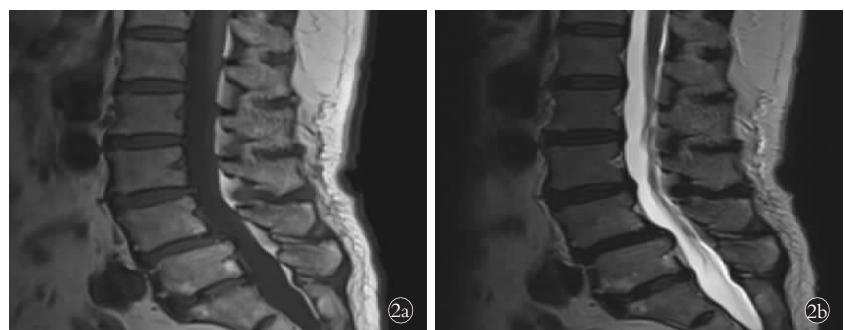


图 2 一名 61 岁男性患者的腰椎 MRI 示 L₄ 椎体向前 I 度滑移,矢状位 L_{4,5} 棘间韧带表现为 T1WI 高信号,T2WI 高信号(箭头所示) 2a. T1WI 图像 2b. T2WI 图像

Fig.2 An MRI image of the lumbar spine of a 61-year-old male patient showed that the L₄ vertebral body slipped forward (degree I), and the sagittal L_{4,5} interspinous ligament showed high signal on T1WI and high signal on T2WI (arrow) 2a. T1WI image 2b. T2WI image

2 结果

2.1 数据纳入情况

除 8 条韧带因图像显示不佳未计入统计结果外,43 位患者共有 207 个椎体和相应的棘间韧带入组研究。根据 Meyerding 分型法,43 例患者共有 48 个节段出现滑脱,I 度 41 个节段,II 度 7 个节段。

2.2 滑脱节段与非滑脱节段棘间韧带出现 T2WI 高信号的分布情况

滑脱节段棘间韧带 T2WI 高信号主要出现在 L_{4,5} 节段椎间隙,明显高于其他节段。经 Fisher 确切概率法分析,与其他节段相比差异有统计学意义($P<0.01$);非滑脱节段棘间韧带 T2WI 高信号主要出现在 L_{5,S1} 椎间隙。经 Fisher 确切概率法分析,与 L_{1,2}, L_{2,3} 和 L_{4,5} 的差异有统计学意义($P<0.05$)。见表 1。

表 1 滑脱节段与非滑脱节段棘间韧带 T2WI 高信号的分布(例)

Tab.1 MRI T2WI high signal distribution of interspinous ligament in spondylolisthesis and non-spondylolisthesis(case)

椎间隙节段	滑脱节段	非滑脱节段
L _{1,2}	0	6
L _{2,3}	3	6
L _{3,4}	3	13
L _{4,5}	20*	7
L _{5,S1}	4	21#

注: *L_{4,5} 滑脱节段出现棘间韧带 T2WI 高信号显著高于 L_{1,2}, L_{2,3}, L_{3,4}, L_{5,S1} 节段($P<0.01$)。#L_{5,S1} 非滑脱节段棘间韧带 T2WI 高信号的发生率高于 L_{1,2}, L_{2,3} 和 L_{4,5}($P<0.05$)

Note: *The T2WI hyperintensity of the interspinous ligament in the L_{4,5} spondylolisthesis segment was significantly higher than that in the L_{1,2}, L_{2,3} L_{3,4}, L_{5,S1} segment ($P<0.01$). The incidence of T2WI hyperintensity in L_{5,S1} non-slipped interspinous ligament is higher than that of L_{1,2}, L_{2,3} and L_{4,5} ($P<0.05$)

2.3 滑脱节段与非滑脱节段对应韧带 T2WI 高信号发生率比较

48 个腰椎滑脱节段中有 30 个节段出现棘间韧带 T2WI 高信号,发生率为 62.5%,远高于非滑脱节段的 33.3%(53/159),滑脱节段和非滑脱节段棘间韧带 T2WI 高信号发生率差异有统计学意义($\chi^2=13.06, P=0.000$)。

2.4 椎体滑脱程度与韧带高信号相关性分析

非滑脱节段、I 度滑脱、II 度滑脱椎体出现棘间韧带 T2WI 高信号的发生率分别为 33.3%、56% 和 100%,Spearman 相关分析表明棘间韧带 T2WI 高信号的出现与腰椎滑脱程度呈正相关($r=0.264, P<0.05$)。见表 2。

表 2 腰椎滑脱程度与棘间韧带 T2WI 高信号的相关性(例)

Tab.2 Correlation between the degree of lumbar spondylolisthesis and T2WI hyperintensity of interspinous ligament(case)

类别	T2WI 无高信号	T2WI 有高信号	合计
非滑脱节段	106	53	159
I 度滑脱节段	18	23	41
II 度滑脱节段	0	7	7
检验值	$r=0.264$		
P 值	0.000		

3 讨论

3.1 棘间韧带的特点及 T2WI 高信号的发生机制

棘间韧带位于相邻棘突之间,腰部的棘间韧带宽而厚,呈四方形,内含感觉神经^[2]。棘间韧带是脊柱后方重要的解剖学结构,对维持脊柱的稳定起着非常重要的作用^[3-6]。当腰椎进行前屈运动时,除前纵韧带外,脊柱的后方韧带复合体均会产生抵抗的力矩,防止椎骨的前移。生物力学的研究表明,棘间韧带和棘上韧带在脊柱屈曲时负担了 19%~36% 的力量,而棘间韧带承担的作用最大,达到 75%^[7-8]。这些韧带的生理特性会随着年龄的增长发生变化,这在组织学研究上也得到了确认^[9]。

目前的研究显示,MRI 可被用于评估棘间韧带的正常或病理变化。Fujiwara 等^[10]基于良好的放射病理学研究首先提出了棘间韧带分级系统,随后 Keorochana 等^[11]将分级系统进行了改良。在 Keocochana 改良的系统中,当棘间韧带表现为 T1WI 加权、T2WI 加权均为高信号时,代表韧带内的脂肪变性;而当 T1WI 加权为低信号、T2WI 加权为高信号时,则代表韧带内细胞显著的广泛增殖和血管浸润。这两种信号改变都意味着棘间韧带处于退变的进展阶段,此时也是脊柱的失稳时期。Kong 等^[12]通过动态磁共振检查,发现在棘间韧带退变的早期腰椎活动度略微增加,而在晚期平移和旋转能力均发生下降。腰椎棘间韧带的机械强度不仅随着年龄的增长而降低,而且在其垂直方向上,拉伸强度也由上至下逐渐变弱^[2]。

3.2 棘间韧带的 T2WI 高信号与腰椎滑脱的关系

退行性腰椎滑脱是峡部保持完整的“假性滑脱”,它的病因和发生机制比较复杂,目前认为它是多因素影响的一个衰老退变过程^[13]。Kirkaldy-Willis 等^[14]认为腰椎的退变会经历 3 个阶段:功能障碍期、不稳定期和重建稳定期,而这也类似小关节和韧带的退变过程。以往对退行性腰椎滑脱的研究主要集中在椎间盘、小关节、椎体终板等方面,对于它与棘

间韧带退变关系的研究甚少。本次研究中,48 个腰椎滑脱节段中有 62.5% 的椎体相对应的棘间韧带发生 T2WI 高信号,远高于非滑脱节段的 33.3%。这是由于前移的椎体,会对后方结构产生异常应力,经小关节、椎弓传递,沿着棘突叠瓦状的形态向下分布,造成棘间韧带的受压损伤。在这 48 个滑脱节段中,有 66.7% 的病例发生在 L₄ 椎体,与赵昕昊等^[15]研究一致。滑脱椎体相对应的 L_{4,5} 棘间韧带 T2WI 高信号有 20 例,同时在非滑脱节段中有 53 个节段的棘间韧带出现 T2WI 高信号,发生率为 33.3%,且相对集中在 L_{3,4} 和 L_{5,S1},在上腰椎出现的情况较少。探讨原因为:由于腰骶角的存在,L₄、L₅ 是主要的承重椎体,长期反复的牵张、异常应力刺激,使得椎体结构处于劳损状态,造成组织结构不同程度的损伤。在一具尸体解剖研究中,Newman^[16]报道 20 岁以上的成人中有 20% 的棘间韧带有不同程度的破裂。据文献报道^[17],在因椎间盘突出施行的腰椎后路手术中,发现有棘间韧带撕裂或破裂的现象不少见。非滑脱节段的棘间韧带也有 33.3% 的 T2WI 高信号的出现,这是由于韧带的退变过程比较漫长,包括形态学、生物力学和生物化学等改变需要一定的时间才能够表现出来。这也可能解释了在 Spearman 相关性分析中,滑脱的程度与棘间韧带的 T2WI 高信号之间分析有统计学意义,但 r 值不高的原因。

综上所述,退行性腰椎滑脱患者中滑脱椎体的棘间韧带出现 T2WI 高信号更多见,T2WI 高信号的出现与椎体滑脱的程度呈正相关。临床工作中,对于椎体滑脱患者的棘间韧带 MRI 信号改变应引起足够重视。

参考文献

- [1] 王正强,杨宝辉,周驱,等.退行性腰椎滑脱与不稳定关系的探讨[J].实用骨科杂志,2011,17(10):913-915,923.
WANG ZQ, YANG BH, ZHOU Q, et al. The relationship between degenerative lumbar spondylolisthesis and instability [J]. Shi Yong Gu Ke Za Zhi, 2011, 7(10): 913-915, 923. Chinese.
- [2] Iwanaga J, Simonds E, Yilmaz E, et al. Anatomical and biomechanical study of the lumbar interspinous ligament [J]. Asian J Neurosurg, 2019, 14(4): 1203-1206.
- [3] Holdsworth F. Fractures, dislocations, and fracture-dislocations of the spine [J]. J Bone Joint Surg Am, 1970, 52(8): 1534-1551.
- [4] Terk MR, Hume-Neal M, Fraipont M, et al. Injury of the posterior ligament complex in patients with acute spinal trauma: evaluation by MR imaging [J]. AJR Am J Roentgenol, 1997, 168(6): 1481-1486.
- [5] Nagel DA, Koogle TA, Piziali RL, et al. Stability of the upper lumbar spine following progressive disruptions and the application of individual internal and external fixation devices [J]. J Bone Joint Surg Am, 1981, 63(1): 62-70.
- [6] Vaccaro AR, Zeiller SC, Hulbert RJ, et al. The thoracolumbar injury severity score: a proposed treatment algorithm [J]. J Spinal Disord Tech, 2005, 18(3): 209-215.
- [7] Adams MA, Hutton WC, Stott JR. The resistance to flexion of the lumbar intervertebral joint [J]. Spine (Phila Pa 1976), 1980, 5(3): 245-253.
- [8] Gillespie KA, Dickey JP. Biomechanical role of lumbar spine ligaments in flexion and extension: determination using a parallel linkage robot and a porcine model [J]. Spine (Phila Pa 1976), 2004, 29(11): 1208-1216.
- [9] 王毅,龚水根,张伟国,等.退行性腰椎疾病棘间韧带 MRI 表现及其病理学意义 [J].第四军医大学学报,2004,25(11):1025-1028.
WANG Y, GONG SG, ZHANG WG, et al. MRI manifestations and pathologic significance of interspinous ligaments in degenerative lumbar spinal diseases [J]. Di Si Jun Yi Da Xue Xue Bao, 2004, 25(11): 1025-1028. Chinese.
- [10] Fujiwara A, Tamai K, An HS, et al. The interspinous ligament of the lumbar spine. Magnetic resonance images and their clinical significance [J]. Spine (Phila Pa 1976), 2000, 25(3): 358-363.
- [11] Keorochana G, Taghavi CE, Tzeng ST, et al. Magnetic resonance imaging grading of interspinous ligament degeneration of the lumbar spine and its relation to aging, spinal degeneration, and segmental motion [J]. J Neurosurg Spine, 2010, 13(4): 494-499.
- [12] Kong MH, Morishita Y, He W, et al. Lumbar segmental mobility according to the grade of the disc, the facet joint, the muscle, and the ligament pathology by using kinetic magnetic resonance imaging [J]. Spine (Phila Pa 1976), 2009, 34(23): 2537-2544.
- [13] Koreckij TD, Fischgrund JS. Degenerative spondylolisthesis [J]. J Spinal Disord Tech, 2015, 28(7): 236-241.
- [14] Kirkaldy-Willis WH, Wedge JH, Yong-Hing K, et al. Pathology and pathogenesis of lumbar spondylosis and stenosis [J]. Spine (Phila Pa 1976), 1978, 3(4): 319-328.
- [15] 赵昕昊,王一鸣,赵建辉,等.峡部裂与退变性腰椎滑脱中后方韧带复合体损伤情况的研究 [J].中国实验诊断学,2019,23(10):1762-1764.
ZHAO XH, WANG YM, ZHAO JH, et al. Study on the injury of posterior ligament complex in isthmic fissure and degenerative lumbar spondylolisthesis [J]. Zhongguo Shi Yan Zhen Duan Xue, 2019, 23(10): 1762-1764. Chinese.
- [16] Newman PH. Sprung back [J]. J Bone Joint Surg Br, 1952, 34(1): 30-37.
- [17] Sartoris DJ, Resnick D, Tyson R, et al. Age-related alterations in the vertebral spinous processes and intervening soft tissues: radiologic-pathologic correlation [J]. AJR Am J Roentgenol, 1985, 145(5): 1025-1030.

(收稿日期:2020-12-18 本文编辑:王宏)