

· 临床研究 ·

颈椎过伸伤患者 MRI 椎前高信号、椎管矢状径与神经功能的相关性分析

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【摘要】 目的:探讨成人无骨折脱位型颈椎过伸伤患者 MRI 椎前高信号、椎管矢状径与神经功能的相关性。**方法:**回顾性分析 2010 年 9 月至 2013 年 12 月收治的无骨折脱位型颈椎过伸伤患者病例资料 100 例, 根据 MRI T2 序列有无椎前高信号分为椎前高信号组和无椎前高信号组, 其中椎前高信号组 39 例, 男 31 例, 女 8 例, 年龄 21~83 岁, 平均(58.10±14.78)岁; 无椎前高信号组 61 例, 男 49 例, 女 12 例, 年龄 32~77 岁, 平均(55.05±10.36)岁。通过 MRI 正中矢状面测量下颈椎各椎间盘层面椎管矢状径, 并记录年龄、性别、受伤原因及椎管狭窄节段数; 采用美国脊髓损伤协会(American Spinal Injury Association, ASIA)神经功能分级及运动评分对神经功能进行评价。**结果:**ASIA 运动评分椎前高信号组为 52.56±31.97, 无椎前高信号组为 67.70±22.83, 两组差异有统计学意义($P=0.013$); 椎前高信号组患者的髓内高信号发生率明显高于无椎前高信号组($P=0.006$); 两组患者 ASIA 运动评分与损伤节段椎间盘层面椎管矢状径存在正相关($P=0.003$), 且椎管狭窄节段越多, ASIA 分级越差。**结论:**成人无骨折脱位型颈椎过伸伤 MRI 椎前高信号、椎管矢状径均与伤后神经功能相关, 而存在多节段椎管狭窄的患者更易遭受严重的颈髓损伤。

【关键词】 磁共振成像; 颈髓损伤; 椎前高信号; 椎管矢状径

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Correlation among prevertebral hyperintensity signal, canal sagittal diameter on MRI and neurologic function of patients with cervical vertebral hyperextension injury DAI Yu-sen, CHEN Bi, TENG Hong-lin, HUANG Ke-lun, WANG Jing, ZHU Min-yu, and LI Chi. Department of Spine Surgery, the First Affiliated Hospital of Wenzhou Medical University, Wenzhou 325000, Zhejiang, China

ABSTRACT Objective: To explore the correlation among prevertebral hyperintensity (PVH), sagittal canal diameter on MRI and neurologic function of patients after cervical vertebral hyperextension injury without fracture and dislocation. **Methods:** The clinical data of 100 patients with cervical vertebral hyperextension injury without fracture and dislocation were retrospectively analyzed from September 2010 to December 2013. The patients were divided into PVH group and non-PVH group according to the presence of PVH on T2-weighted magnetic resonance imaging. There were 39 patients in PVH group, including 31 males and 8 females, aged from 21 to 83 years old with an average of (58.10±14.78) years; and the other 69 patients in non-PVH group, including 49 males and 12 females, aged from 32 to 77 years old with an average of (55.05±10.36) years. The sagittal disc level canal diameters of subaxial cervical spine were measured on mid-sagittal magnetic resonance imaging. The age, sex, cause of injury, and the segments of spinal stenosis were recorded. American Spinal Injury Association (ASIA) impairment scale and motor score were used to evaluate the neurological status. **Results:** The ASIA motor score of the group with PVH was 52.56±31.97 while the ASIA motor score was 67.70±22.83 in non-PVH group ($P=0.013$). More patients with intramedullary hyperintensity signal on MRI were observed in the PVH group than in non-PVH group ($P=0.006$). There was a significant positive correlation between ASIA motor score and sagittal disc level canal diameter of injury segment ($P=0.003$). The neurological status was worse in patients with multi-level sagittal canal diameters below 8 mm. **Conclusion:** The PVH and the disc-level canal sagittal diameter of the injury segment are associated with neurological status. The patients with multi-level sagittal canal stenosis are vulnerable to severe cervical spinal cord injury.

KEYWORDS Magnetic resonance imaging; Cervical spinal cord injury; Prevertebral hyperintensity; Sagittal canal diameter

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无骨折脱位的颈椎过伸伤在 X 线和 CT 均未见骨折和脱位表现, 多由颈椎过伸时前方突出的椎间盘和后方的黄韧带嵌夹颈髓造成。据报道, 该型颈髓

损伤患者并不少见，但因 X 线和 CT 的阴性表现容易漏诊^[1]。而 MRI 对于该型损伤具有诊断价值^[2-3]，故对于有颈椎外伤史的患者即使 CT 检查无外伤表现，仍应进一步行 MRI 检查^[4-5]。多项研究表明，无骨折脱位型颈椎过伸伤患者多存在退变性或先天性颈椎椎管狭窄，且颈髓损伤多发生在椎间盘层面，而 MRI 能清楚地显示椎间盘突出、黄韧带增生、椎前血肿^[1-2]，但这些表现与伤后患者神经功能的相关性研究却很少报道。为研究颈髓损伤患者 MRI 椎前高信号、椎管矢状径与伤后神经功能的相关性，笔者就 2010 年 9 月至 2013 年 12 月收治的 100 例无骨折脱位型颈椎过伸伤患者进行了回顾性分析。

1 资料与方法

1.1 纳入与排除标准

纳入标准：明确的颈椎过伸伤病史，伤后出现不同程度的颈髓损伤症状或体征，如四肢及躯干疼痛麻木、感觉过敏、肌力减退。排除标准：X 线及 CT 可见骨折或脱位表现，伤前即存在神经功能损害及合并颅脑外伤。

1.2 一般资料

本组 100 例，男 80 例，女 20 例。受伤原因：交通伤 48 例，高处坠落伤 16 例，跌倒伤 28 例，重物砸伤 8 例。根据 MRI T2 序列有无椎前高信号分为椎前高信号组和无椎前高信号组（PVH 组和 Non-PVH 组）。椎前高信号影主要由颈长肌水肿或前纵韧带断裂引起小血管破裂产生的血肿造成。其中 PVH 组 39 例，男 31 例，女 8 例，年龄 21~83 岁，平均(58.10±14.78) 岁，保守治疗 14 例，手术治疗 25 例；Non-PVH 组 61 例，男 49 例，女 12 例，年龄 32~77 岁，平均(55.05±10.36) 岁，保守治疗 23 例，手术治疗 38 例。两组患者的性别、年龄及受伤原因差异无统计学意义($P>0.05$)，见表 1。

1.3 影像学检查

所有患者于伤后 72 h 内行 MRI 检查，采用 Siemens 1.5T 超导型全身磁共振机进行快速自旋回波(FSE)序列，常规颈椎矢状位 T1WI(TR2041/TE12)、

T2WI (TR2740/TE94) 序列及 T2WI 脂肪抑制序列 (TR2600/TE47)，层厚 3 mm，间距 0.4 mm，矩阵 240×240。轴位 T2WI(TR500/TE20)序列，层厚 3 mm，间距 0.4 mm，矩阵 240×240。

1.4 观察项目与方法

(1)通过 MRI T2 序列正中矢状面图像测量 C₂-C₇ 椎间盘层面椎管矢状径（椎间盘后缘至下位椎体椎板上缘之间的距离），记录颈髓损伤节段（若存在连续多节段损伤，则认定损伤中心的椎间盘层面为损伤节段）及狭窄节段数（若椎管矢状径<8 mm 则认定该节段为狭窄节段）^[6]，见图 1。(2)按照 ASIA 运动评分对所有患者神经功能进行评定，ASIA 神经功能评级方法见表 2。(3)对损伤节段椎管矢状径与 ASIA 运动评分进行相关分析，并对所有病例的椎管狭窄节段数（椎管矢状径）与 ASIA 神经功能分级进行统计分析。

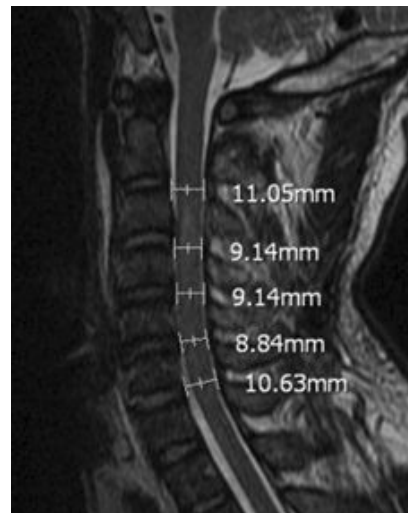


图 1 MRI 正中矢状面上测量 C₂-C₇ 各椎间盘层面椎管矢状径
Fig.1 The sagittal disc level canal diameters of subaxial cervical spine were measured on T2-weighted magnetic resonance imaging

1.5 统计学处理

应用 SPSS 17.0 统计软件进行分析；两组间年

表 1 两组无骨折脱位型颈椎过伸伤患者的临床资料比较

Tab.1 Comparison of clinical characteristics of patients with cervical vertebral hyperextension injury without fracture and dislocation between two groups

组别	例数(例)	性别(例)		年龄($\bar{x}\pm s$,岁)	受伤原因(例)			
		男	女		跌倒伤	高处坠落伤	交通伤	重物砸伤
PVH 组	39	31	8	58.10±14.78	13	8	16	2
Non-PVH 组	61	49	12	55.05±10.36	15	8	32	6
检验值	-	$\chi^2=0.011$		$t=1.125$	$\chi^2=2.770$			
P 值	-	0.918		0.265	0.428			

表 2 ASIA 脊髓损伤神经功能分级标准
Tab.2 ASIA grade of neurologic function for spinal cord injuries

A 级	完全性损伤	S ₄ -S ₅ 骶髓节段无任何运动与感觉功能保留
B 级	不完全性损伤	在神经平面以下包括 S ₄ 、S ₅ 存在感觉功能,但无运动功能
C 级	不完全性损伤	在神经平面以下存在运动功能,神经平面以下大部分关键肌的肌力小于 3 级
D 级	不完全性损伤	在神经平面以下存在运动功能,神经平面以下大部分关键肌的肌力大于或等于 3 级
E 级	正常	运动和感觉功能正常

龄、损伤节段椎管矢状径及 ASIA 运动评分比较采用两样本均数的 *t* 检验;性别组成、受伤原因及髓内高信号发生率比较采用 χ^2 检验;损伤节段椎管矢状径与 ASIA 运动评分的关系采用单因素相关分析。以 $P < 0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。

2 结果

2.1 两组间 ASIA 运动功能评分比较

两组患者的 ASIA 运动评分比较差异有统计学意义 ($P = 0.013$),且 PVH 组患者 MRI 髓内高信号的发生率要高于 Non-PVH 组 ($P = 0.006$),见表 3。

表 3 两组无骨折脱位型颈椎过伸伤患者的 ASIA 运动评分及髓内高信号发生率比较

Tab.3 Comparison of ASIA motor score and incidence of intramedullary hyperintensity signal of patients with cervical vertebral hyperextension injury without fracture and dislocation between two groups

组别	例数(例)	ASIA 运动评分 ($\bar{x} \pm s$, 分)	髓内高信号发生率 (%)
PVH 组	39	52.56±31.97	76.92
Non-PVH 组	61	67.70±22.83	49.18
检验值	-	$t = -2.569$	$\chi^2 = 7.629$
<i>P</i> 值	-	0.013	0.006

2.2 椎管矢状径与 ASIA 运动评分及评级的关系

对所有病例的损伤节段椎管矢状径与 ASIA 运动评分进行相关分析, $r = 0.297, P = 0.003$, 显示 ASIA 运动评分与损伤节段椎管矢状径存在相关性。

对所有病例的 ASIA 神经功能分级与椎管狭窄节段数进行统计分析,其中 ASIA 分级 A 级 4 例,平均椎管狭窄节段 2 节;B 级 4 例,平均椎管狭窄节段 1.75 节,C 级 26 例,平均椎管狭窄节段 1.69 节;D 级 67 例,平均椎管狭窄节段 1.24 节,结果显示 ASIA 分级越差的患者存在的椎管狭窄节段数越多。

3 讨论

无骨折脱位型颈椎过伸伤往往来自于瞬间的暴力。当颈椎过伸时,椎体瞬间轻微的位移及颈髓前后方如突出的椎间盘、骨赘、后纵韧带、黄韧带,都会使

椎管空间的减小,压迫颈髓构成严重损伤^[7-8]。MRI 上前纵韧带断裂,椎前高信号,椎间盘破裂,脊髓信号改变等表现能提示颈髓损伤机制及严重程度^[9-11]。且该型颈髓损伤很大程度上由椎间盘等软组织压迫造成,在 MRI 上测量椎间盘层面椎管矢状径等相关参数更具有意义^[6]。

3.1 椎前高信号与颈髓损伤程度的关系

对于无骨折脱位型颈髓损伤,前纵韧带、颈长肌等椎前软组织起着限制颈椎的过伸的作用。椎前高信号通常因过伸性损伤造成颈长肌水肿或前纵韧带断裂引起小血管破裂引起的血肿^[12],报道称在 X 线上椎前软组织增宽对于颈椎过伸伤具有诊断意义^[13-14],而在 MRI 上的椎前高信号具有更高的敏感性及特异性。在本研究中,椎前高信号组患者的 A-SIA 运动评分明显低于无椎前高信号组,因椎前高信号代表的椎前软组织损伤往往由更大程度的颈椎过伸造成。且椎前高信号组患者的髓内高信号发生率明显高于无椎前高信号组,而多项研究证实髓内信号改变代表着严重的神经损伤^[10,15]。进一步说明了椎前高信号组患者颈髓损伤的严重程度,Machino 等^[15]对 88 例无骨折脱位型颈髓损伤患者的 MRI 进行研究,认为椎前高信号的长度与 C₃ 椎体高度的比值和术后 JOA 评分存在负相关。Maeda 等^[16]研究也表明椎前高信号的面积与伤后神经功能呈负相关。且颈椎不稳组(动力位片相邻节段位移 > 3.5 mm 或角度改变 > 11°)的椎前高信号面积明显高于颈椎稳定组,其术后 JOA 评分也要低于颈椎稳定患者。Song 等^[17]在其报道中也提出椎前高信号与颈椎不稳存在相关性,并且颈椎不稳患者的预后更差。由此可见,椎前高信号不仅代表着受伤时软组织的损伤程度,反映颈髓损伤的严重程度,还可能造成伤后颈椎稳定性的下降,从而导致预后不良。

3.2 椎间盘层面椎管矢状径与颈髓损伤程度的关系

大部分无骨折脱位型的颈髓过伸伤在伤前即存在退变性或先天性椎管狭窄^[18]。Takao 等^[19]曾对颈髓损伤的患者进行统计分析,发现椎管狭窄的患者发生创伤性颈髓损伤的概率是正常人的 124.5 倍。可见,椎管狭窄是造成颈髓损伤的风险因素之一。本研

究结果显示损伤节段椎间盘层面椎管矢状径与神经功能评分呈正相关,因椎管矢状径越小,在相同的过伸程度下颈髓受压越严重。Aebli 等^[6,20]对无骨折脱位但存在椎间盘韧带复合体损伤的颈髓损伤患者进行研究,结果神经损伤组的 Torg-Pavlov 比值明显小于无神经损伤组。而其在 MRI 上测量椎间盘层面测量椎管矢状径,结论同样是颈髓损伤组的椎管矢状径要小于无损伤组,并提出将 8 mm 作为椎间盘层面椎管矢状径狭窄的临界值对颈髓损伤具有预后评估价值。在本研究中对下颈椎各椎间盘层面的椎管矢状径进行了测量,并记录狭窄的节段数(椎管矢状径 < 8 mm)。结果显示连续狭窄的节段数越多,患者的神经功能分级越差,可能因单节段的节段狭窄压迫颈髓时损伤节段上下方的椎管可为受压颈髓提供缓冲空间。而当存在连续多节段的狭窄,损伤时椎管的缓冲空间不足,颈髓受压更严重,亦可能由各狭窄节段分别压迫颈髓造成。

对于无骨折脱位型颈椎过伸伤,颈椎退变是颈髓损伤的基础,过伸性暴力是颈髓损伤的直接原因。而在 MRI 表现上,椎间盘层面椎管矢状径能代表退变程度,椎前高信号则反映过伸暴力的大小,故其能够提示颈髓损伤严重程度。

本研究存在不足之处:缺乏对感觉功能的相关评价;没有将其他可能对神经功能造成影响的因子考虑进去,可能对统计结果造成影响。

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