

• 基础研究 •

miR-146a通过抑制TRAF6减轻缺氧诱导的巨噬细胞炎症反应

蒋承烨¹, 倪明明¹, 孙 尧¹, 高庆文², 孔亮亮², 季 易², 郭宏丽^{1*}

¹南京医科大学附属儿童医院药理学部, ²烧伤整形科, 江苏 南京 210008

[摘要] 目的: 探讨 miR-146a 在缺氧诱导巨噬细胞炎症反应中的作用。方法: 建立体外巨噬细胞缺氧-复氧模型, 检测缺氧诱导巨噬细胞中 miR-146a/肿瘤坏死因子受体相关因子 6(tumor necrosis factor receptor-associated factor 6, TRAF6)的表达水平及炎症因子、活性氧的变化, 并在巨噬细胞中过表达或抑制 miR-146a, 分析其对巨噬细胞炎症反应的作用。结果: 缺氧诱导巨噬细胞中 miR-146a 表达下降, 同时, TRAF6 以及炎症因子、活性氧表达升高。过表达 miR-146a 通过直接靶向结合 TRAF6 减少 TRAF6 的表达, 从而减轻巨噬细胞炎症因子及活性氧的释放, 然而, 转染 miR-146a 抑制剂增加 TRAF6 的蛋白水平, 增强炎症反应。结论: 上调 miR-146a 的表达可直接抑制 TRAF6, 减轻缺氧诱导巨噬细胞的炎症反应。新的针对 miR-146a 治疗策略可能有利于减轻缺血再灌注时巨噬细胞释放的炎症因子及活性氧导致的损伤。

[关键词] miR-146a; 缺氧; 巨噬细胞; 炎症反应; 活性氧

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miR - 146a mitigates hypoxia - induced inflammatory responses in macrophages by suppressing TRAF6

JIANG Chengye¹, NI Mingming¹, SUN Yao¹, GAO Qingwen², KONG Liangliang², JI Yi², GUO Hongli^{1*}

¹Department of Pharmacy, ²Department of Burns and Plastic Surgery, Children's Hospital of Nanjing Medical University, Nanjing 210008, China

[Abstract] **Objective:** To explore the role of microRNA - 146a (miR - 146a) in hypoxia induced inflammatory responses in macrophages. **Methods:** The expression of miR-146a/tumor necrosis factor receptor-associated factor 6 (TRAF6), inflammatory factors and reactive oxygen species (ROS) in macrophages were determined under hypoxia - reoxygenation model. Moreover, release of inflammatory factors and ROS were analyzed after mimic or inhibitor of miR - 146a. **Results:** The miR - 146a expression level was obviously decreased in hypoxia induced macrophages, while the expression of TRAF6, inflammatory factors and ROS increased. Overexpression of miR - 146a directly targeted and decreased TRAF6 expression and reduced the release of inflammatory factors and ROS, however, transfection with miR-146a inhibitor increased the levels of TRAF6 and promoted inflammatory response. **Conclusion:** Overexpression of miR - 146a attenuates the inflammation response in hypoxia induced macrophages by directly targeting the TRAF6 gene. New treatment strategies targeting miR - 146a may help reduce ischemia-reperfusion injury caused by inflammatory factors and ROS in macrophages.

[Key words] miR-146a; hypoxia; macrophage; inflammatory response; ROS

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缺血再灌注损伤 (ischemia - reperfusion injury, IRI) 可发生在多种组织器官中, 包括脑、肾脏、心脏、

肝脏、肢体等^[1]。缺血再灌注早期, 相关免疫细胞尤其是巨噬细胞被激活, 释放多种炎症因子、化学分子、活性氧 (reactive oxygen species, ROS), 从而引起缺血再灌注后期中性粒细胞的浸润和细胞的凋亡, 导致组织坏死^[2]。目前 IRI 过程中免疫细胞参与的

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*通信作者 (Corresponding author), E-mail: salmon0724@163.com

机制仍不明确。多种微小RNA(microRNA, miRNA)被证明参与免疫反应,特别地,miRNA-146a(miR-146a)被证实通过靶向抑制肿瘤坏死因子受体相关因子6(tumor necrosis factor receptor-associated factor 6, TRAF6),可负性调节 Toll 样受体 4(Toll-like receptor 4, TLR4)通路^[3]。然而,miR-146a能否通过抑制TLR4信号通路,减轻IRI还有待深入研究。本研究通过建立体外巨噬细胞缺氧-复氧模型模拟缺血再灌注过程,并通过定量PCR及蛋白印迹实验研究此过程中miR-146a的表达水平,以及TRAF6 mRNA和蛋白的表达水平,并通过转染miR-146a模拟物(miR-146a mimic)及抑制物(miR-146a inhibitor),验证其对TRAF6的调控以及对巨噬细胞炎症因子和ROS释放的调节作用,为减轻组织器官IRI提供新的方向和治疗策略。

1 材料和方法

1.1 材料

小鼠巨噬细胞系RAW264.7购于中国科学院上海细胞资源中心。

胎牛血清、DMEM培养基、无糖DMEM培养基、0.25%胰酶(Gibco公司,美国);AnaeroPack-Anaero缺氧袋(MGC公司,日本);TRAF6及 β -actin的引物、TRIzol、Lipofectamine2000(Invitrogen公司,美国);TaqmanTM MicroRNA 反转录试剂盒、miR-146a及RNU6B特异性Taqman探针和TaqmanTM Universal PCR Master Mix(ABI公司,美国);TRAF6、 β -actin一抗(Santa公司,美国);miR-146a mimic、miR-146a inhibitor以及相应的阴性对照(上海吉玛公司);Valukine ELISA kit(RD公司,美国);Dual-Glo luciferase Reporter Assay System(Promega公司,美国)。

1.2 方法

1.2.1 细胞培养

在恒温37℃、含5% CO₂的细胞培养箱中进行细胞培养,培养基为添加了10%胎牛血清、50 U/mL青霉素和50 μ g/mL庆大霉素的DMEM培养基。

1.2.2 缺氧-复氧实验

参考Liu等^[4]报道的细胞缺氧-复氧模型,取对数生长期的RAW264.7细胞系,每孔 4×10^5 个细胞种植于6孔板中培养24 h,换成无血清无糖培养基,置于AnaeroPack-Anaero缺氧袋内,通过氧指示剂显示袋内氧含量低于5%时再培养1 h,拿出并换成完全培养基继续培养6 h后收集细胞及细胞上清液。

1.2.3 细胞转染

取对数生长期的RAW264.7细胞系,每孔 4×10^5 个细胞种植于6孔板中培养24 h,50 nmol/L miR-146a mimic或miR-146a inhibitor,以及相应的阴性对照通过Lipofectamine2000进行转染,具体转染步骤参照试剂盒说明书,转染后24 h收集标本或进行缺氧-复氧实验。

1.2.4 实时定量PCR

应用TRIzol提取细胞总RNA,并测定RNA浓度及纯度。然后通过反转录试剂盒将总RNA逆转录成cDNA,设计引物序列,TRAF6上游引物:5'-CCTGGGTTATGTGCCGCTT-3',下游引物:5'-GAGGATGTGAACGAGGTCAGC-3'; β -actin上游引物:5'-GTGACGTTGACATCCGTAAAGA-3',下游引物:5'-GCCGGACTCATCGTACTCC-3'。最后通过SYBR Green定量PCR试剂盒进行定量检测。

为检测miR-146a的表达,首先利用TaqmanTM MicroRNA 反转录试剂盒进行逆转录,具体操作按说明书进行,然后应用miRNA特异性Taqman探针和TaqmanTM Universal PCR Master Mix进行miR-146a的实时定量检测,RNU6B作为内参。所有实时定量反应均在ABI StepOnePlus real-time PCR system上进行,每个反应设3个复孔。

1.2.5 Western blot

细胞用含1%蛋白酶抑制剂的细胞裂解液进行裂解,蛋白样品在10% SDS-PAGE中电泳,然后将蛋白转移至PVDF膜,5%脱脂牛奶在室温下封闭1 h,加一抗(anti-TRAF6、anti- β -actin)在4℃过夜,然后在室温下加HRP标记的二抗孵育1 h。常规ECL曝光、扫描成像。

1.2.6 ELISA

收集细胞上清液,按照ELISA试剂盒说明进行操作,检测上清液中肿瘤坏死因子 α (tumor necrosis factor α , TNF- α)的含量,实验重复3次。

1.2.7 双荧光素酶报告分析

pmirGLO、pRL-TK荧光素酶质粒购于美国Promega公司,设计的野生和突变型寡聚核苷酸序列由上海Invitrogen公司合成,通过限制性核酸内切酶Nhe I、Xho I位点插入pmirGLO质粒,构建完成pmirGLO-TRAF6-wt/mut质粒,构建的质粒测序证实构建成功。为了进行双荧光素酶报告分析,将miR-146a mimic或其对照和pmirGLO-TRAF6-wt/mut质粒、pRL-TK质粒共同转染进RAW264.7细胞中,转染24 h后应用Dual-Glo Luciferase Reporter Assay

System在GloMax 20/20 Luminometer上检测。

野生型寡聚核苷酸序列:正义链5'-CTAGC-GTTCTCATGGTCAGAAGTTCTCATC-3',反义链5'-TCGAGATGAGAACTTCTGACCATGAGAACG-3';突变型寡聚核苷酸序列:正义链5'-CTAGCTTCTCATGGTCAGACTGGAGACTC-3',反义链5'-TCGAGAGTCTCCAGTCTGACCATGAGAACG-3'(下划线为酶切位点,加粗部分为靶向序列)。

1.2.8 ROS测定

经处理的细胞用无血清的DMEM培养基漂洗3遍,用5 $\mu\text{mol/L}$ 超氧化物阴离子荧光探针(上海碧云天)在37 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 细胞培养箱中孵育30 min,然后在荧光倒置显微镜下观察,红色荧光标记代表ROS的释

放。实验重复3次。

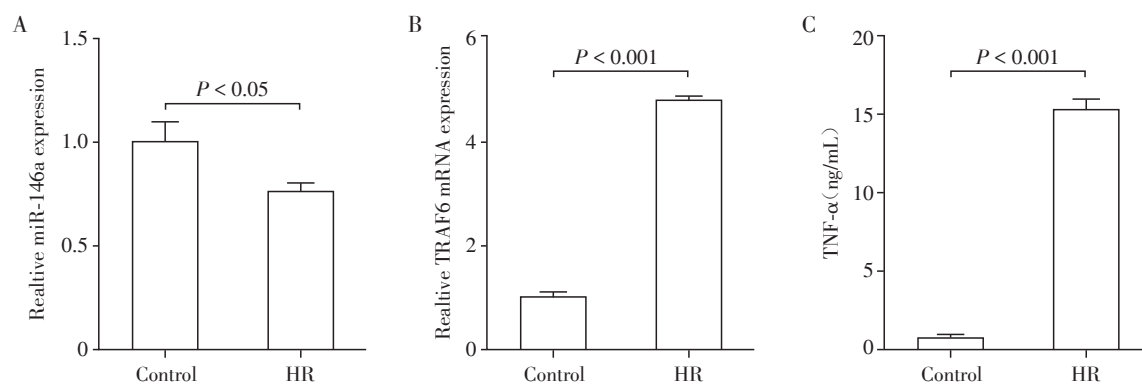
1.3 统计学方法

运用SPSS 18.0软件进行统计分析,计量资料以均数 \pm 标准差($\bar{x} \pm s$)表示,两组间比较采用 t 检验, $P < 0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。

2 结 果

2.1 巨噬细胞系中缺氧-复氧模型的建立

建立细胞缺氧-复氧模型,定量PCR显示RAW264.7细胞经过1 h缺氧和6 h再复氧后miR-146a的表达明显下降(图1A),而TRAF6的表达则明显升高(图1B)。ELISA检测细胞上清发现炎症因子TNF- α 在缺氧-复氧后分泌也明显增加(图1C)。



A: The expression level of miR-146a in macrophages of the control group and the HR group. B: TRAF6 mRNA expression in macrophages of the control group and the HR group. C: Concentration of TNF- α in macrophage supernatant the control group and the HR group. Each experiment was repeated three times. HR: hypoxia-reoxygenation($n=3$).

图1 巨噬细胞缺氧-复氧诱导

Figure 1 Induction of hypoxia-reoxygenation in macrophages

2.2 miR-146a调控TRAF6的表达

为了验证miR-146a对TRAF6的表达调控,将miR-146a mimic或miR-146a inhibitor分别转染入RAW264.7细胞中。qPCR结果显示,转染miR-146a mimic明显增加了细胞中miR-146a的表达(图2A),而且Western blot结果显示缺氧-复氧后TRAF6的蛋白表达被抑制(图2C)。相反地,miR-146a inhibitor有效抑制了miR-146a的表达(图2B),同时TRAF6的蛋白表达明显增加(图2D)。

2.3 miR-146a靶向结合TRAF6

为了进一步确定TRAF6是否是miR-146a的直接靶点,通过microRNA靶点预测软件Target Scan 5.2得到了miR-146a可能结合TRAF6的3'非翻译区(3'untranslated region, 3'UTR),并以此构建了质粒pmirGLO-TRAF6-wt/mut(图3A)。最后应用双荧光素酶报告分析,发现转染miR-146a mimic明显降低

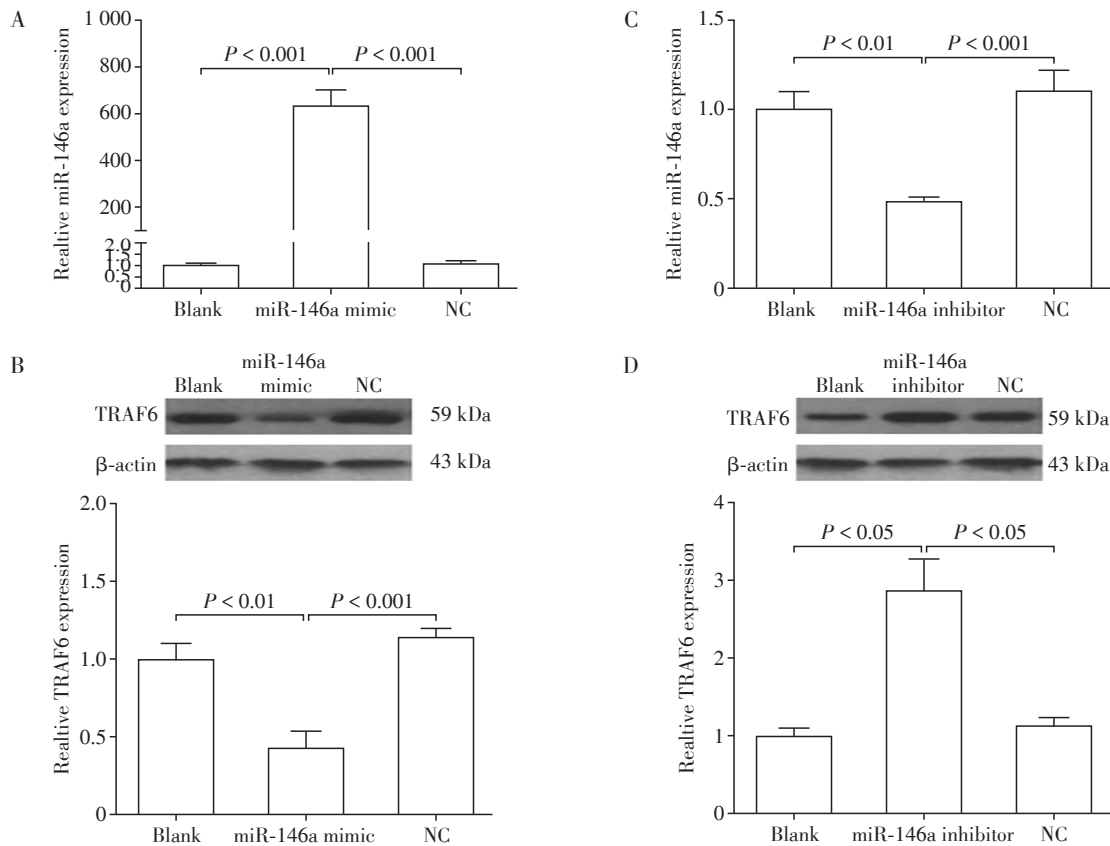
了pmirGLO-TRAF6-wt质粒中荧光素酶活性(图3B)。以上结果表明miR-146a在巨噬细胞中直接靶向TRAF6并下调其表达。

2.4 miR-146a减轻巨噬细胞炎症反应

通过ELISA检测细胞上清,发现过表达miR-146a的巨噬细胞缺氧-复氧后炎症因子TNF- α 的分泌较对照组明显减少,而转染miR-146a inhibitor后可以观察到相反的现象(图4A)。同时在检测细胞ROS时也发现了类似的改变(图4B)。

3 讨 论

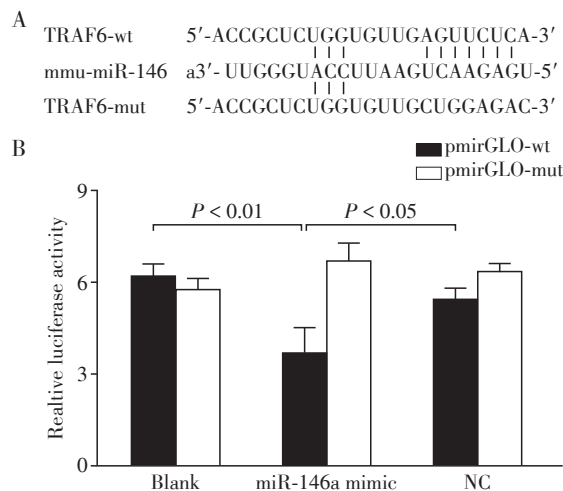
IRI是影响组织器官功能维持的关键因素,其病理过程包括免疫系统的激活、ROS的释放、细胞的凋亡与损伤等^[1],而其中巨噬细胞被证明参与多种器官的IRI过程^[5]。多项研究表明缺血再灌注可诱导巨噬细胞浸润并释放多种炎症因子,包括白介



A, B: Macrophages were transfected with miR-146a mimic or its negative control (NC). The expression of miR-146a was detected by qPCR (A), and the expression of TRAF6 was detected by Western blot (B). C, D: Macrophages were transfected with miR-146a inhibitor or its negative control (NC), and the expression of miR-146a was detected by RT-PCR (C), and the expression of TRAF6 was detected by Western blot (D) ($n=3$).

图2 miR-146a 调控 TRAF6 的表达

Figure 2 Regulation of miR-146a in the expression of TRAF6



A: miR-146a binds to the original and mutated 3' untranslated region of TRAF6. B: Luciferase expression was measured 24 h after RAW264.7 cells were co-transfected with pRL-TK, pmirGLO-TRAF6-WT or pmirGLO-TRAF6-MUT, miR-146a mimic or negative control (NC) ($n=3$).

图3 miR-146a 靶向结合 TRAF6

Figure 3 miR-146a targeted TRAF6

素-1 β 、白介素-6、TNF- α 以及ROS导致器官组织损伤、坏死^[6-8]。miRNA是一种约23个核苷酸的非编码小RNA,通过与信使RNA的3'UTR互补进行转录后调控^[9]。miRNA被证明参与几乎所有的生物过程,包括细胞增殖、凋亡、分化等,与此同时,大量证据表明miRNA也可参与免疫系统的过程^[10-12]。本研究发现miR-146a通过抑制TRAF6的表达,减轻了巨噬细胞缺氧-复氧过程中炎症因子及ROS的释放。

缺氧-复氧实验是常用的体外缺血再灌注模型^[4]。本研究将此模型应用在小鼠巨噬细胞系RAW264.7上,以检测缺氧-复氧诱导后miR-146a、TRAF6的表达水平以及炎症因子的释放。结果表明,TRAF6的表达明显上调,而且通过ELISA分析发现炎症因子释放也明显增加,然而细胞中miR-146a的表达却明显下调。提示miR-146a/TRAF6在巨噬细胞的炎症反应中可能起到重要作用,这也与之前的研究报道相符合^[13-14]。此外,与野生型小鼠相比,敲除miR-146a小鼠骨髓来源的巨噬细胞中TRAF6蛋白水平

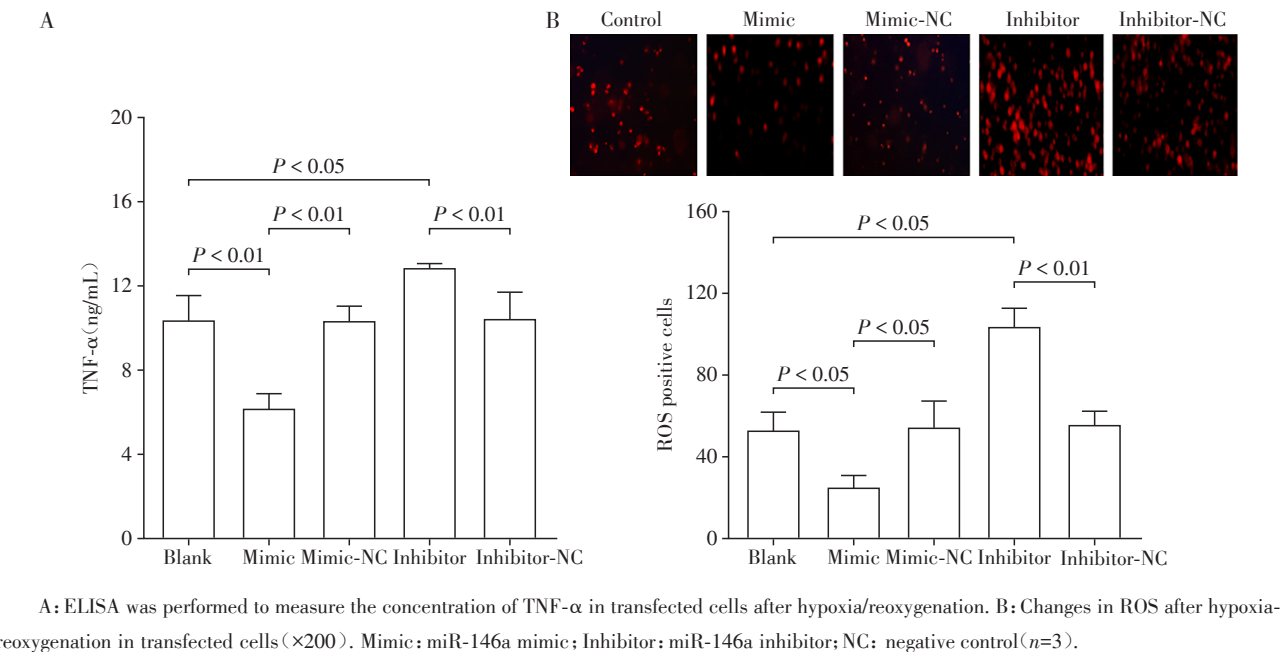


图4 miR-146a 调控巨噬细胞炎症反应

Figure 4 miR-146a regulates the inflammatory response of macrophages

显著增加^[15]。然而,该小鼠是否对 IRI 更敏感,有待进一步证实。

为了进一步验证 miR-146a 与 TRAF6 之间是否存在调控作用,通过转染 miR-146a mimic 上调巨噬细胞中 miR-146a 的表达可以抑制 TRAF6 的蛋白表达,并且双荧光素酶分析结果表明,这种抑制作用是直接靶向的,相反地,抑制 miR-146a 的表达则增加 TRAF6 的蛋白表达。本研究结果与最近的报道一致,miR-146a 可以靶向 TRAF6,负调控 Toll 样受体信号通路^[16-17]。TRAF6 是缺血再灌注诱导的细胞质蛋白激酶,磷酸化后促进转录因子 NF-κB 的核转位,从而释放促炎细胞因子,包括 TNF-α 和 IL-6^[7,18]。而且,在 TRAF6 缺陷的巨噬细胞中,Toll 样受体信号通路介导的炎症反应明显受损^[19-20]。本研究发现,miR-146a 抑制 TRAF6 后减少了巨噬细胞炎症因子的释放,相反,抑制 miR-146a 的表达增加了炎症因子的释放。激活 Toll 样受体信号通路可以明显增加 ROS 的产生^[21],本研究中转染 miR-146a mimic 的巨噬细胞缺氧-复氧后 ROS 产生较对照组明显减少,而抑制 miR-146a 表达后 ROS 明显增加。这些结果表明 miR-146a 可能通过下调 TRAF6 的表达减轻巨噬细胞炎症反应并减少 ROS 的释放。

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