

• 临床研究 •

利福平和利福布汀对 rpoB 基因突变而表型敏感的结核菌耐药性研究

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[摘要] 目的: 研究利福平(rifampicin, RIF)和利福布汀(rifabutin, RFB)两种药物对 rpoB 基因突变而表型敏感的结核分枝杆菌(*Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, MTB)耐药性的差异。方法: 收集2022年1月—2024年12月南京中医药大学附属南京医院肺结核患者痰液或肺泡灌洗液标本, 经MTB培养、Xpert分子药敏检测及 rpoB 基因测序, 筛选出RIF表型敏感、低度耐药及部分高度耐药的 rpoB 突变菌株, 采用浓度梯度法测定RIF和RFB的最小抑菌浓度(minimum inhibitory concentration, MIC)。结果: 共纳入298株分子和表型药敏均呈阳性菌株, 分子药敏检测RIF耐药的灵敏度为93.3%, 特异度为94.6%, 准确率为94.3%。在82株分子耐药菌株中, 96.3%检测出 rpoB 基因突变, 常见的突变点为531、526、511。琼脂固体药敏结果显示: S531L、H526Y、H526R、H526Q、D516V对RIF高度耐药; S512G、S522L、L533P对RIF低度耐药; H526L、D516Y、L511P、P483L对RIF敏感。MIC检测发现, 仅H526L和L511P对两种药物均敏感; 而S531L、L511P+H526Q双突变、H526D、D516Y、S512G、S522L、L533P、P483L等突变对RIF耐药但对RFB敏感。整体上, rpoB 突变株对数转换的RIF MIC(log₂RIF-MIC)值[3.50(1.00, 4.00)]显著高于对数转换的RFB MIC(log₂RFB-MIC)值[2.00(-3.00, 3.75)]($Z=-4.481, P < 0.001$)。结论: rpoB 突变位点差异导致MTB对RIF和RFB耐药水平不同。相比RIF, RFB对多种 rpoB 突变株(如L511P、H526L、D516Y、S522L等)具有更低的MIC值及潜在的临床有效性。通过对 rpoB 突变位点进行精准分析并评估其对RFB的敏感性, 可为“分子耐药-表型敏感”的临床困境提供新思路, 并为利福霉素类药物的个体化分层治疗提供依据。

[关键词] 分枝杆菌; 表型药敏; 基因突变; 分层治疗; 利福平; 利福布汀

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Study on the drug resistance to rifampicin and rifabutin in *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* with rpoB gene mutation but phenotypically sensitive

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[Abstract] **Objective:** To examine the variations in drug resistance between rifampicin(RIF)and rifabutin(RFB)in *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*(MTB)with rpoB gene mutations but phenotypically sensitive. **Methods:** Sputum or bronchoalveolar lavage fluid samples from pulmonary tuberculosis patients at the Affiliated Nanjing Hospital of Nanjing University of Chinese Medicine from January 2022 to December 2024 were collected. These samples underwent MTB culture, Xpert molecular drug susceptibility testing(DST), and rpoB gene sequencing. Strains with rpoB mutations that were phenotypically sensitive, showed low-level resistance, or selected cases of high-level resistance to RIF were screened. The minimum inhibitory concentrations(MIC)of RIF and RFB were determined using the concentration gradient method. **Results:** A total of 298 strains were included, with both molecular and phenotypic DST being positive. The molecular DST showed a sensitivity of 93.3% and a specificity of 94.6% for detecting RIF resistance, with an overall accuracy of 94.3%. Among 82 molecularly resistant strains, rpoB gene mutations were detected in 96.3%, with common mutation sites at codons 531, 526, and 511. Agar-based phenotypic DST results showed that S531L, H526Y, H526R, H526Q, and D516V mutations conferred

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high-level resistance to RIF; S512G, S522L, and L533P conferred low-level resistance; while H526L, D516Y, L511P, and P483L mutations were phenotypically sensitive to RIF. MIC testing revealed that only H526L and L511P mutations were sensitive to both drugs. In contrast, strains with mutations including S531L, L511P combined with H526Q, H526D, D516Y, S512G, S522L, L533P, and P483L were resistant to RIF but remained sensitive to RFB. Overall, the log-transformed RIF MIC (\log_2 RIF-MIC) value [3.50 (1.00, 4.00)] for *rpoB* mutant strains was significantly higher than the log-transformed RFB MIC (\log_2 RFB-MIC) value [2.00 (-3.00, 3.75)] ($Z=-4.481, P < 0.001$). **Conclusion:** This study demonstrates that different *rpoB* mutation sites lead to varying levels of resistance to RIF and RFB in MTB. Compared to RIF, RFB exhibits lower MIC values and potential clinical effectiveness against various *rpoB* mutant strains (e.g., L511P, H526L, D516Y, S522L, etc.). Precise analysis of *rpoB* mutation sites and evaluation of their susceptibility to RFB may offer a new strategy to address the clinical dilemma of “molecular resistance-phenotypic sensitivity” and provide a basis for formulating individualized, stratified treatment plans using rifamycin drugs.

[Key words] *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*; phenotypic drug susceptibility; genetic mutation; stratified treatment; rifampicin; rifabutin

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结核病是由结核分枝杆菌(*Mycobacterium tuberculosis*, MTB)感染引起的慢性传染病,严重威胁全球公共卫生。长期以来对人类健康造成威胁。耐药结核的出现进一步加剧其防控难度。据世界卫生组织(World Health Organization, WHO)估计,2022年全球有41万耐药结核患者,占新发病例的3.3%,治疗成功率仅为63%^[1]。我国作为结核负担全球第3的国家,2022年报告的耐药结核病患者约3.3万例,平均治疗成功率为53%^[2]。

利福平(rifampicin, RIF)属于强效杀菌剂^[3],是结核病治疗方案中的核心杀菌药物,但其耐药问题日益严重。为此,WHO建议,一旦检测到RIF耐药,应立即启动二线药物治疗^[1],然而这类治疗方案疗程长(通常需18个月或更长)、药物不良反应多、费用高昂,但疗效常不理想。因此,实现早期、准确的耐药诊断对改善治疗结局至关重要。

传统表型药敏试验虽被WHO认定为诊断耐药结核的“金标准”,但耗时长达2~3个月,难以满足临床早期决策的需求。RIF的杀菌机制是作用于编码RNA聚合酶 β 亚基的*rpoB*基因,约95%的耐药与*rpoB*基因突变相关^[4],且突变主要集中在81 bp长的507~533密码子对应的RIF耐药决定区(RIF resistance determinant region, RRDR)^[5]。目前,WHO在全球范围推荐的GeneXpert MTB/RIF(简称“Xpert”)技术,正是基于该区域,通过设计5个探针全面覆盖*rpoB*基因的RRDR区域,可在2 h内快速检测MTB和RIF耐药性^[6],极大地提升了诊断效率。然而,临床中常出现Xpert提示RIF耐药而后续表型却显示敏感的矛盾结果,给治疗决策带来困惑^[7-8]。如何评价这种“分子耐药-表型敏感”现象,已成为当前耐药结核领域一个争论的焦点,值得研究。

由于选择压力和遗传背景等因素,不同地区MTB的耐药突变谱存在差异^[9],且表型药敏结果可能因检测方法的不同而受到影响^[10]。南京中医药大学附属南京医院采用琼脂固体比例法将RIF耐药分为高度耐药($\geq 250 \mu\text{g/mL}$)和低度耐药($\geq 50 \mu\text{g/mL}$)^[11]。而WHO推荐的临界耐药浓度为 $40 \mu\text{g/mL}$ ^[1],这一差异提示有必要对本地区菌株的耐药水平进行更精确地评估。

利福布汀(rifabutin, RFB)与RIF同属于利福霉素类药物,作用机制相似^[12]。但RFB的体外抗菌活性是RIF的2~4倍,曾被WHO推荐为治疗耐药结核的合理替代方案^[13]。尽管两者之间存在交叉耐药,但研究表明某些*rpoB*突变对RFB最小抑菌浓度(minimum inhibitory concentration, MIC)的升高幅度小于RIF^[14],提示RFB对部分分子耐药菌株可能仍具有活性。然而,目前针对“分子耐药-表型敏感”菌株中不同*rpoB*突变对RIF和RFB耐药性差异的系统研究仍较缺乏,值得研究。

因此,本研究旨在分析南京地区MTB的*rpoB*基因的突变特征,并比较不同突变菌株对RIF和RFB的耐药水平,以为临床精准治疗提供实验室依据。

1 材料和方法

1.1 材料

收集南京中医药大学附属南京医院2022年1月—2024年12月肺结核患者痰液或肺泡灌洗液样本共2 236份,经MTB培养和基因Xpert检测,去除结果阴性和重复样本后,将分子和表型药敏同时阳性的298株菌株纳入研究,它们对应298例患者。其中82株分子耐药菌株进行*rpoB*基因测序和固体表型药敏结果分析,纳入了所有RIF表型敏感

及低度耐药的 rpoB 突变株(共 25 株)。对于高度耐药株,为在有限样本量内实现不同突变类型间的有效比较,依据突变类型进行了代表性选取:对除 S531L 外的其他突变类型,因为数量相对有限而全部纳入;对菌株数最多的 S531L 突变类型(共 42 株),则从中随机选取 3 株作为该类型的代表。最终,共 40 株菌株进行 RIF 和 RFB 的 MIC 检测(图 1)。本研究已获医院伦理委员会批准(伦理批号:2023-LY-kt093),所有患者知情同意。

1.2 方法

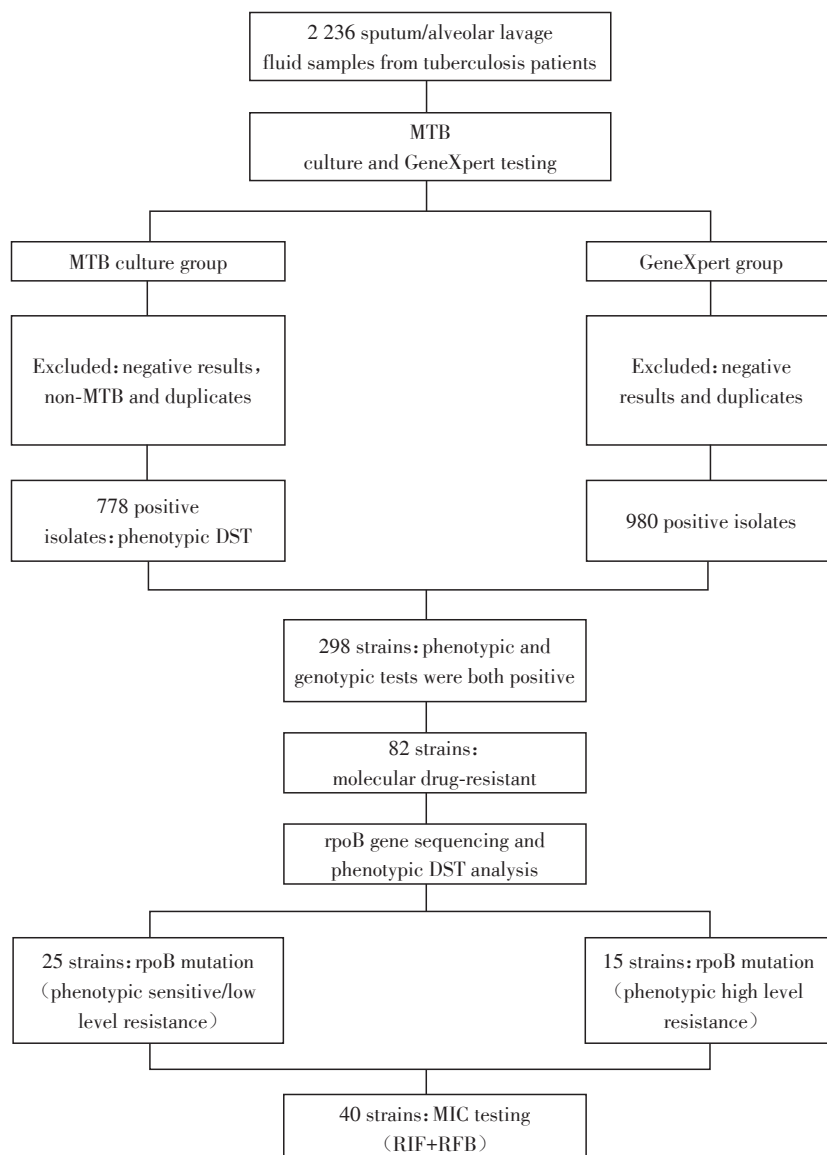
1.2.1 MTB 培养及药敏鉴定

罗氏固体法进行 MTB 培养。使用对硝基苯甲酸培养基(p-nitrobenzoic acid medium, PNB)和噻吩-

2-羧酸酰肼培养基(thiophere-2-carboxylic acid hydrazide medium, TCH)培养基对培养阳性的标本进行菌种鉴定:PNB 能抑制牛分枝杆菌和人型结核分枝杆菌,而 TCH 仅抑制牛分枝杆菌。通过分析菌株在两种培养基上的生长情况,鉴定出 MTB。采用琼脂固体比例法检测 RIF 表型药敏,取 0.1 mL 菌液接种至高浓度(250 μg/mL)、低浓度(50 μg/mL)含药培养基和对照培养基。当两个浓度培养基上无菌落生长、对照管有菌生长,判定为敏感;当两个浓度培养基均有菌落生长,判定为高度耐药;只在低浓度培养基有菌落生长,判定为低度耐药。

1.2.2 Xpert 核酸扩增检测

将待检测的痰液或灌洗液以 1 500 r/min 离心,



MTB: *Mycobacterium tuberculosis*; DST: drug susceptibility test; MIC: minimum inhibitory concentration; RIF: rifampicin; RFB: rifabutin.

图 1 样本筛选流程图

Figure 1 Sample screening flowchart

去除上清液后取 1 mL 备用。接着,将 NaOH 与异丙醇按照 1:2 的比例混合制备处理液,并与 1 mL 的备用液混合。将混合液放置于震荡器中震荡 30 s,随后取出并在室温下静置 15 min。将 2 mL 混合液再次加入反应箱,最后在 Gene X-pert 全自动检测仪器中检验,约 2 h 后得出结果^[15]。

1.2.3 rpoB 基因测序

采用 Mericon™ DNA Bacteria Kit (Qiagen 公司,美国)进行 DNA 提取。首先,刮取培养基上长势良好的菌落,放于内含 200 μL 细菌裂解液的 2 mL 离心管中。然后在涡流机上充分振荡后,置于 200 °C 金属浴中加热 10 min,再 13 000 r/min 离心 5 min,最终取上清液放于新离心管中以备用。rpoB 基因扩增所用引物为 rpoB-F: 5'-TACGGTCGGCGAGCTGATCC-3' 和 rpoB-R: 5'-TACGGCGTTTCGATGAACC-3' (由深圳华大基因公司合成),扩增产物的序列大小为 411 bp。PCR 扩增采用 50 μL 的反应体系,包括 5 μL 的模板 DNA,上下游引物各 1.5 μL, ddH₂O 17 μL, EasyTaq PCR Super Mix (2×) 25 μL (北京全式金生物有限公司)。具体过程如下: 95 °C 变性 5 min; 94 °C 变性 1 min, 58 °C 退火 1 min, 72 °C 延伸 10 min, 循环 30 次。扩增产物采用 1% 琼脂糖凝胶电泳检测。PCR 产物送浙江圣庭医学检验中心测序。利用 DNAMAN 软件对基因的突变位点、形式及突变率进行分析,并用 BLAST 软件与 H37RV 菌株基因进行序列比对。以大肠杆菌编号系统为基础进行研究分析。

1.2.4 RIF 和 RFB 的 MIC 测定

药物的 MIC 检测采用分枝杆菌微孔法药敏试剂盒 (珠海银科医学工程有限公司) 进行。RIF 和 RFB 药物浓度分别设定为 0.125、0.250、0.500、1.000、2.000、4.000、8.000 μg/mL, 依据国家药品监督管理局批准的厂家说明,微孔板法判读标准基于临床和实验室标准研究所 (CLSI) M24A 建议^[16]: ≤1.0 μg/mL 表示敏感, 2.0 μg/mL 表示低度耐药, ≥4.0 μg/mL 表示高度耐药。质控 MTB 标准菌株 (H37Rv) 同步进行微孔板的操作。

1.3 统计学方法

采用 SPSS 26.0 统计软件进行数据分析。计数资料以例数和百分比 [$n(\%)$] 表示; 计量资料经 Shapiro-Wilk 检验证实不符合正态分布, 故以中位数 (四分位数) [$M(P_{25}, P_{75})$] 表示。以传统表型药敏结果为金标准, 计算分子药敏 (Xpert) 检测 RIF 耐药的灵敏度、特异度、阳性预测值、阴性预测值、准确率及约登指数, 并采用 Kappa 检验评估两种方法的一致性。

为比较 rpoB 突变菌株对 RIF 和 RFB 的耐药水平, 将 MIC 进行对数转换 (\log_2 MIC) 后, 采用配对样本 Wilcoxon 秩和检验分析其差异。所有假设检验均为双侧检验, $P < 0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。

2 结果

2.1 298 株 MTB 分子和表型药敏结果比较

共纳入 298 株 RIF 分子与表型药敏均为阳性的菌株。其中, 分子耐药 82 株, 分子敏感 216 株; 表型耐药 75 株, 表型敏感 223 株 (表 1)。分子药敏检出耐药的灵敏度为 93.3% (95% CI: 87.7%~99.0%), 特异度为 94.6% (95% CI: 91.4%~97.3%), 阳性预测值为 86.4% (95% CI: 77.7%~93.0%), 阴性预测值为 96.7% (95% CI: 95.7%~99.7%), 约登指数为 88.0%, 准确率达 94.3%, 与表型药敏结果的一致性较高 ($\kappa=0.852, P < 0.001$)。

表 1 MTB 分子和表型药敏结果比较

Table 1 Comparison of phenotypic and molecular drug sensitivity results of MTB ($n=298$)

Molecular drug sensitivity	Phenotypic drug sensitivity of RIF		Total
	Resistance	Sensitivity	
Resistance	70	12	82
Sensitivity	5	211	216
Total	75	223	298

2.2 分子耐药患者的临床特征

82 例 RIF 分子耐药患者中位年龄为 [41 (38, 56)] 岁, 男性占 61.0%。67.1% 有肺结核治疗史, 47.6% 合并糖尿病。送检标本以肺泡灌洗液为主 (61.0%, 表 2)。

2.3 rpoB 基因突变谱与表型药敏的对应关系

82 株 RIF 分子耐药菌株中, 79 株 (96.3%) 检出 rpoB 基因突变。最常见的突变是密码子 531 (TCG

表 2 82 例 RIF 分子耐药患者的临床特征

Table 2 Clinical features of 82 patients with molecular resistance to RIF [$n(\%)$]

Characteristics	Case
Male	50 (61.0)
Female	32 (39.0)
History of tuberculosis	55 (67.1)
Diabetes	39 (47.6)
Hypertension	17 (20.7)
Specimen type	
Sputum	32 (39.0)
Bronchoalveolar lavage fluid	50 (61.0)

变为TTG),共突变53次(占64.6%),其次是密码子526(CAC变为TAC、CTC、CGC、GAC)突变11次(13.4%)。密码子511(CTG变为CCG)突变7次(占8.5%),其中5次是单突变,2次是联合526(CAC变为GAC)和516(GAC变为GTC)双突变。密码子516(GAC变为GTC、TAC)突变4次(占4.9%),密码子512(AGC变为GGC)、533(CTG变为CCG)、522(TCG变为TTG)、483(CCG变为CTG)各突变1次。琼脂固体药敏结果显示:S531L、H526Y、H526R、H526Q、D516V突变株对RIF高度耐药,部分S531L、S512G、S522L和L533P突变株对RIF低度耐药,而H526L、

D516Y、L511P、P483L突变株对RIF敏感(表3)。

2.4 rpoB突变株RIF与RFB的MIC值分布

对40株代表性 rpoB 突变菌株进行MIC测定。其中包括S531L突变14株,L511P突变7株、526位点4种突变(H526Y、H526R、H526Q、H526L)共11株、516位点突变(D516V、D516Y)共4株,S512G、S522L、L533P、P483L突变各1株。

RIF的MIC结果显示,H526L和L511P为敏感(MIC≤1.0 μg/mL),S522L、L533P、P483L及1株低突变率(20.34%)S531L为低度耐药(MIC=2.0 μg/mL);其余突变株为高度耐药(MIC≥4.0 μg/mL)。RFB的

表3 82株分子耐药株的 rpoB 突变模式及 RIF 表型药敏结果

Table 3 The rpoB mutation patterns and RIF phenotypic susceptibility results of 82 molecular resistant strains

Codon	Nucleotide	Amino acid	The number of strains [n(%)]	Phenotypic drug sensitivity of RIF [n(%)]		
				High-level resistance (n=57)	Low-level resistance (n=13)	Sensitivity (n=12)
531	TCG→TTG	Ser→Leu	53(64.6)	42(73.7)	11(84.6)	0(0)
526	CAC→TAC	His→Tyr	4(4.9)	4(7.0)	0(0)	0(0)
526	CAC→CTC	His→Leu	3(3.7)	0(0)	0(0)	3(25.0)
526	CAC→CGC	His→Arg	2(2.4)	2(3.5)	0(0)	0(0)
526	CAC→GAC	His→Gln	2(2.4)	2(3.5)	0(0)	0(0)
516	GAC→GTC	Asp→Val	2(2.4)	2(3.5)	0(0)	0(0)
516	GAC→TAC	Asp→Tyr	2(2.4)	0(0)	0(0)	2(16.7)
511	CTG→CCG	Leu→Pro	7(8.5)	1(1.8)	0(0)	6(50.0)
533	CTG→CCG	Leu→Pro	1(1.2)	0(0)	1(7.7)	0(0)
522	TCG→TTG	Ser→Leu	1(1.2)	0(0)	1(7.7)	0(0)
512	AGC→GGC	Ser→Gly	1(1.2)	1(1.8)	0(0)	0(0)
483	CCG→CTG	Pro→Leu	1(1.2)	0(0)	0(0)	1(8.3)
-	-	-	3(4.9)	3(5.3)	0(0)	0(0)

-: no mutations were detected.

MIC结果显示,L511P、L511P+H526Q、H526D、H526L、D516Y、S512G、S522L、L533P、P483L均敏感(MIC≤1.0 μg/mL);L511P+D516及D516V为低度耐药(MIC=2.0 μg/mL);S531L、H526Y、H526R为高度耐药(MIC≥4.0 μg/mL,表4)。

图2显示所有菌株RIF和RFB的MIC值分布,对数转换的RIF MIC(log₂RIF-MIC)值[3.50(1.00,4.00)]高于对数转换的RFB MIC(log₂RFB-MIC)值[2.00(-3.00,3.75)](Z=-4.481,P<0.001)。图3显示不同 rpoB 突变菌株对RIF和RFB耐药性的比较。

3 讨论

分子检测技术通过识别耐药基因突变,实现了RIF耐药的早期诊断。本研究中Xpert检测RIF耐

药的敏感度为93.3%,与表型药敏结果高度一致(kappa=0.852),这与国内其他报道相符^[17]。然而,仍有12株携带 rpoB 基因突变的菌株在表型上显示敏感,提示两种方法存在差异,这可能与临界浓度设定或特定突变机制有关^[18]。因此,对于不一致结果,需结合突变位点进行深入分析。

不同地区流行的MTB中,rpoB突变类型存在差异。南京地区最常见的突变位点在531、526和511。其中,S531L最为普遍,这与全球多数地区报道一致^[19-20]。其次,526位点检出H526Y、H526L、H526R和H526Q这4种形式,越南还报道了H526S突变^[21]。L511P是本研究中第3常见的突变,此前在我国贵州的耐药菌株中发现^[22]。此外,本研究还检测到516(D516V和D516Y)、L533P、S512G突变形

表4 rpoB突变位点不同的菌株RIF和RFB的MIC值比较
Table 4 MIC distribution of RIF and RFB in rpoB mutant drug-resistant strains

Mutation site	MIC($\mu\text{g/mL}$)		The number of strains	Mutation rate [*] (%)
	RIF	RFB		
S531L	≥ 16.000	≥ 16.000	9	99.30
S531L	≥ 16.000	4.000	4	98.82
S531L	2.000	1.000	1	20.34
L511P	0.500	0.250	2	100.00
L511P	0.500	≤ 0.063	3	98.21
L511P+D516G	8.000	2.000	1	45.33+49.21
L511P+H526Q	2.000	≤ 0.063	1	57.43+38.26
H526Y	≥ 16.000	≥ 16.000	2	98.13
H526Y	≥ 16.000	8.000	2	99.33
H526D	8.000	0.125	2	100.00
H526L	1.000	0.125	3	99.41
H526R	≥ 16.000	≥ 16.000	2	97.84
D516Y	4.000	0.250	2	100.00
D516V	≥ 16.000	2.000	2	99.66
S512G	8.000	0.125	1	99.11
S522L	2.000	0.500	1	98.90
L533P	2.000	0.125	1	88.22
P483L	2.000	≤ 0.063	1	71.94

^{*}: the mutation rate of a single site in each strain, that is the proportion of mutant bases among all bases. P: proline; L: leucine; G: glycine; V: valine; Y: tyrosine; R: arginine; D: aspartic; Q: glutamine.

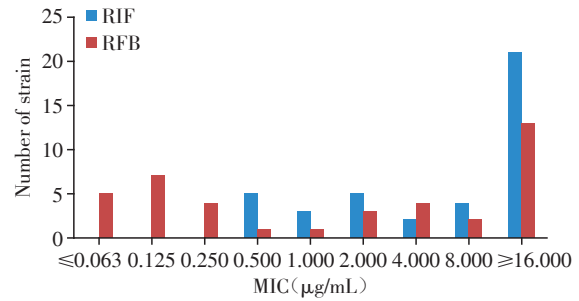


图2 耐药菌株中RIF和RFB MIC值的分布
Figure 2 Distribution of MIC values of RIF and RFB in drug-resistant strains

式,其他研究也有类似报道^[23-25]。近年来,全世界报道RRDR之外的突变越来越多(如P483L),南非东开普省耐药菌株中发现的突变形式包括Y42D、G52A、H87G、L92S、V441G、L450S、L457P,均与RIF耐药相关^[25]。这些发现揭示了rpoB基因突变谱的多样性。

值得注意的是,并非所有rpoB突变都表现为高水平耐药。药物的杀菌力与其MIC直接相关。研究发现,特定的耐药机制会导致耐药与敏感菌株之间的MIC分布存在部分重叠^[12],欧洲抗菌药物敏感度测定委员会将此区域定义为“技术不确定区”^[18],这可能是导致“分子耐药而表型敏感”现象的原因之一。为此,WHO建议降低药物的临界浓度以提高

RIF	483	511	512	513	514	515	516	517	518	519	520	521	522	523	524	525	526	527	528	529	530	531	532	533
	P	L	S	Q	F	M	D	Q	N	N	P	L	S	G	L	T	H	K	R	R	L	S	A	L
High-level resistance		P*	G				Y										Y					L		
							V										D							
							G*										R							
Low-level resistance	L	P#											L				Q#							P
Sensitivity		P															L							
RFB	483	511	512	513	514	515	516	517	518	519	520	521	522	523	524	525	526	527	528	529	530	531	532	533
P	L	S	Q	F	M	D	Q	N	N	P	L	S	G	L	T	H	K	R	R	L	S	A	L	
High-level resistance																	Y					L		
																	R							
Low-level resistance		P*					V															L		
							G*																	
Sensitivity	L	P#	G				Y						L				D							P
		P															L							
																	Q#							

High-level resistance (MIC $\geq 4.0 \mu\text{g/mL}$), low-level resistance (MIC=2.0 $\mu\text{g/mL}$), and sensitivity (MIC $\leq 1.0 \mu\text{g/mL}$). *: double mutations at positions 511 and 526; #: double mutations at positions 511 and 516; P: proline; L: leucine; G: glycine; V: valine; Y: tyrosine; R: arginine; D: aspartic; Q: glutamine.

图3 rpoB突变耐药菌株对RIF和RFB耐药水平
Figure 3 The drug resistance levels of rpoB mutant drug-resistant strains to RIF and RFB

表型药敏检测的灵敏度,并推荐使用浓度梯度法进行验证^[26]。本研究中传统琼脂固体药敏结果显示, rpoB 基因 P483L、L511P、H526L、D516Y 突变菌株对 RIF 表现为敏感;但经浓度梯度法验证后发现,只有 H526L、L511P 突变株对 RIF 敏感, P483L、D516Y 突变株依然耐药。这表明,对于 rpoB 突变而表型敏感的菌株,有时需结合更精确的定量药敏方法(如 MIC 测定)来最终判定其耐药水平^[27]。

RIF 耐药性与 rpoB 基因的 RRDR 区域(507~533 位氨基酸)密切相关,其中 531、516 和 526 位点被视为核心,其突变通常会严重破坏药物与靶点的结合。而 511 位点位于该区域上游边缘,既往有研究认为其是“沉默突变”,对 RIF 敏感性影响不大^[28]。然而,当 511 位点与其他已确认的耐药位点同时存在于同一个菌株的基因组上时,可能通过协同效应使得该菌株依然耐药^[29]。本研究中观察到的两株 511 与 516、526 位点的双突变株,均对 RIF 保持耐药,而 RFB 敏感性在不同组合间存在差异(L511P+H526Q 对 RFB 敏感, L511P+D516G 对 RFB 低度耐药)。这提示当“沉默突变”或低耐药性突变与明确耐药位点共存时,其效应可能并非简单叠加,而是需要结合具体位点进行综合评估。由于双突变株样本量有限,此现象需更多研究证实。但 526 位点的 H526L 突变对 RIF 敏感。这种情况与其生物学结构特征有关:野生型组氨酸(His)的咪唑环带有部分正电荷,可作为氢键受体与 RIF 分子紧密结合^[30]。突变后的亮氨酸(Leu)为疏水性脂肪链,其体积与咪唑环相当但无法形成氢键,导致药物结合亲和力下降^[31]。但这种下降可能未达到耐药标准,因此在某些药敏试验中表现为低度耐药甚至判读为“敏感”^[32]。

既往研究报道,3%~26%的 rpoB 基因突变株对 RIF 耐药而 RFB 敏感,常见于 516、529 和 533 位突变位点^[33]。本研究发现,对 RIF 耐药而 RFB 敏感的突变形式包括 S512G、S522L、L533P、P483L、D516Y、H526D 以及 L511P+H526Q 双突变。药物敏感性与 MIC 密切相关。因此,进一步用浓度梯度法检测两种药物的 MIC 值后发现,RFB 的 MIC 值无论从分布还是中位数上均显著低于 RIF,表明 RFB 具有更强的体外抗菌活性。这一现象有其机制基础:首先,RFB 分子结构较 RIF 更小且构象更灵活,能更好地适应因 rpoB 突变导致的药物靶点构象的变化,从而维持有效结合^[34]。其次,RFB 还能与 RNA 聚合酶的 σ 亚基发生相互作用,这可能是其另一个抗菌机制^[35]。在药代动力学方面,RFB 在组织渗透性、

细胞内浓度及半衰期等方面均优于 RIF^[36-37],有助于在体内维持更高的有效浓度。临床研究也为此提供了支持:一项对 837 株临床分离株的研究显示,在 77 株 RIF 耐药株中,34.6%对 RFB 敏感,并且使用 RFB 的患者取得了良好疗效^[38];另一项关于脊柱结核的研究也表明,基于 rpoB 突变检测结果选用 RFB 治疗,可获得满意的临床效果^[39]。这些证据共同提示,对于特定的 rpoB 突变,RFB 是一种有效的临床治疗替代选择。

本研究中还发现 3 株无 rpoB 基因突变但表型 RIF 耐药的菌株。文献报道,约 5%的 MTB 耐药基因尚不明确,可能涉及细胞壁通透性改变或外排泵活性增强等其他机制^[40]。此外,值得注意的是,本研究发现 1 株 S531L 突变株(突变率仅 20.34%)对 RIF 低度耐药而对 RFB 敏感,提示除了突变位点本身,突变基因在菌群中的占比(突变率)也可能影响最终的表型药敏,值得未来在大样本中进一步探讨。

需要说明的是,本研究 MIC 检测部分采用了目的性抽样方法,其结果主要用于揭示不同 rpoB 突变类型对两种药物敏感性影响的潜在趋势和差异,为后续的大样本、随机抽样的验证性研究提供初步线索和假设。特别是对于 S531L 这类高频率突变,本研究中的少量样本仅能提示其高度耐药趋势,其确切的 MIC 分布需未来扩大样本量进行研究。

综上所述,虽然分子药敏检测在耐药结核病诊断中至关重要,但仅知道“RIF 耐药”并不足以指导精准治疗,还需明确具体基因突变位点。因为不同突变位点对 RIF 和 RFB 的耐药性存在显著差异,直接影响临床治疗决策。例如:L511P、H526L 突变株对两种药物均敏感,可继续 RIF 治疗;S522L、L533P、P483L 等突变株对 RIF 低度耐药而对 RFB 敏感,可考虑换用 RFB 或尝试高剂量 RIF 治疗;S512G、D516Y、H526D 等突变株对 RIF 耐药但对 RFB 敏感,适合换用 RFB 治疗;而 H526Y、H526R、S531L 等突变株对 RIF 和 RFB 均高度耐药,一旦检测到,立即停用所有利福霉素类药物,换用其他二线药物治疗。这种基于 rpoB 突变位点精准解析利福霉素类药物分层治疗的策略,有望为“分子耐药-表型敏感”的临床困境提供解决方案,值得在临床实践中进一步验证和推广。

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Author's Contributions:

YANG Yan was responsible for the topic selection, study design and manuscript writing; HU Qinqin was responsible for the research conducting; LIU Yi was responsible for data organization; HUANG Yan was responsible for the chart production; ZHANG Xiangrong was responsible for guiding and reviewing the article.

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