

铁死亡在恶性肿瘤治疗中的研究进展

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摘要:恶性肿瘤严重威胁人类健康,尽管临床上抗肿瘤治疗手段繁多,但患者仍存在疗效欠佳、复发及转移等,最终导致死亡。如何有效克服肿瘤治疗抵抗已成为亟待解决的临床难题。铁死亡(ferroptosis)是近些年发现的一种程序性细胞死亡新形式,是一种铁依赖性的,以细胞内活性氧堆积为特征的非细胞凋亡形式的细胞死亡。最新研究表明铁死亡途径与肿瘤治疗疗效密切相关。铁死亡相关研究进展为肿瘤治疗增敏提供了新策略,为新药研发提供了新思路。本文就铁死亡影响多种抗肿瘤治疗的机制研究新进展作一综述。

关键词:铁死亡;恶性肿瘤;肿瘤治疗;氧化应激

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Research Advances of Ferroptosis in Malignant Tumors

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Abstract: Ferroptosis, a new form of programmed cell death, is an iron-dependent and non-apoptotic cell death characterized by intracellular accumulation of reactive oxygen species (ROS). Recent studies have shown that ferroptosis is closely related to the efficacy of cancer therapy. Research advances in ferroptosis may provide new strategies for cancer sensitization, and new ideas for drug development. The mechanisms and progress of ferroptosis in various malignant tumors are reviewed.

Key words: ferroptosis; malignancy; tumor therapy; oxidative stress

恶性肿瘤通常称为“癌症”,从组织学分为上皮性的癌和间叶性的肉瘤及血液癌,其特征是异常细胞的失控生长、浸润和转移。根据世界卫生组织统计,2018年全世界癌症死亡约960万人,全球近六分之一的死亡由癌症造成^[1]。恶性肿瘤是全世界第二大死因,是严重威胁人类生命健康的主要疾病之一^[1-2]。我国最新癌症报告表明,2015年全国恶性肿瘤发病人数约392.9万,死亡约233.8万^[3]。恶性肿瘤死亡率约占总死亡率的25%,且恶性肿瘤的发病率和死亡率仍呈上升趋势,为我国带来了巨大的经济压力,造成防控形势严峻^[3]。最新研究表明铁死亡

途径与肿瘤治疗疗效密切相关^[4-6]。因此探索铁死亡途径与肿瘤治疗增敏的机制是提高疗效的关键。

1 铁死亡概述

铁死亡(ferroptosis)是近些年发现的一种细胞死亡新形式,是一种铁依赖性的,以细胞内活性氧堆积为特征的非细胞凋亡形式的细胞死亡^[7]。铁死亡的细胞形态学上会发生特殊变化,如出现比正常细胞小的线粒体,线粒体膜会出现皱缩,且线粒体嵴减少或消失,以及外膜破碎^[8-9]。细胞外三价铁离子(Fe^{3+})与转铁蛋白(TF)相结合形成 TF-Fe^{3+} 复合物,在膜蛋白转铁蛋白受体蛋白1(TFR1)的介导作用下进入细

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胞内,并被还原成 Fe^{2+} [10]。在二价金属转运蛋白DMT1(SLC11A2)和ZIP8/14(SLC39A8/SLC39A14)的协助下, Fe^{2+} 被存储到细胞内的不稳定的铁池(LIP)中[11-12]。此外,胞内 Fe^{2+} 在PCBP1/2等铁伴侣蛋白的协助下经过膜铁运铁蛋白1(FPN1)泵出铁离子,维持胞内铁平衡[13-14]。而铁超载参与了细胞膜的脂质过氧化,导致大量活性氧簇(ROS),促使细胞发生铁死亡[15-16]。脂质ROS代谢途径在铁死亡中发挥重要作用[9],其细胞膜胱氨酸/谷氨酸转运受体(System Xc⁻) [7]、中线粒体外膜的电压依赖性阴离子通道(VDACs)[7]、谷胱甘肽过氧化物酶4(GPX4)[7,17]和铁死亡抑制蛋白1(FSP1)[18-20]等铁死亡相关蛋白以及p62/keap1/Nrf2 [21-22]、p53相关通路[23-24]和ACSL4/LPCTA3/LOX [25]等铁死亡相关通路是通过影响脂质ROS代谢途径发挥其调节铁死亡的功能。Viswanathan等[26]学者发现肿瘤治疗抵抗状态与脂质过氧化物酶通路密切相关,推断铁死亡机制是一种克服癌症治疗抵抗的方法,它优于驱动癌基因和耐药突变的传统方法。

2 铁死亡和恶性肿瘤治疗

近年来,恶性肿瘤治疗一直在加速发展,为患者带来了明显的临床益处。据美国IQVIA研究所发布的《Global Oncology Trends 2019》[27]报告表明2018年全球已批准了创纪录的15种新的肿瘤治疗药物,用于17种适应证,为患者带来了新的治疗选择。全球在肿瘤药物上的花费巨大,临床试验活动复杂性也在急剧增加。尽管管道活动水平很高,但是肿瘤学仍然是研发领域最具挑战性的领域之一,面临着巨大的失败风险和漫长的开发时间。恶性肿瘤目前主要有手术、化疗、放疗、靶向治疗及免疫治疗等治疗手段。尽管临床上抗肿瘤治疗手段繁多,但患者仍存在疗效欠佳、复发及转移等,最终治疗失败导致死亡。如何克服肿瘤治疗抵抗已成为亟待解决的临床难题。已有研究表明铁死亡诱导剂erastin可以提高替莫唑胺[28]、顺铂[29-30]、维罗非尼(vemurafenib)[31]和多西他赛[32]等抗肿瘤药物在特定肿瘤上的抗肿瘤作用,而铁死亡相关的药物柳氮磺胺吡啶[28,33-34]、索拉非尼(sorafenib,SRF)[35]和青蒿素及其衍生物[36-37]在肿瘤治疗中具有巨大的临床价值。有些恶性肿瘤如人类

肾上腺皮质癌对铁死亡的诱发非常敏感,这意味着铁死亡可能直接用于恶性肿瘤治疗[38]。铁死亡相关研究进展为肿瘤治疗增敏提供了新策略,为新药研发提供了新思路。本文就铁死亡影响多种抗肿瘤治疗的机制研究新进展作一综述。

2.1 铁死亡与肿瘤化疗

化疗是恶性肿瘤的主要治疗方法之一,但肿瘤多药耐药(multidrug resistance,MDR)现象已成为肿瘤患者化疗失败的主要原因。在肿瘤的化疗过程中,由于各种机制导致了肿瘤细胞对化疗药物产生抵抗,这种现象被人们称为肿瘤的多药耐药性[39]。目前普遍认为肿瘤的多药耐药性可以分为两种情况,第一情况被称为固有抵抗,即该肿瘤细胞与组织在接受化疗之前便对该种药物具有抵抗作用。另一种被称为获得性抵抗,即患者在经过有效的化疗之后出现的药物抵抗[40]。MDR的产生有多种分子机制,存在逆转MDR的潜力[41-44]。近年来越来越多的研究如何有效克服肿瘤MDR,而随着铁死亡走进我们的视线,为克服肿瘤化疗抵抗看到了希望[43-44]。

目前研究策略包括抑制ABC转运蛋白、开发新型药物剂型、靶向肿瘤微环境、调节ROS等,其中调节ROS可能有更广泛的应用价值[44-45]。调节细胞ROS水平使MDR癌细胞对某些化疗药物敏感从而增加MDR癌细胞的死亡[45-46]。如Zhang等[47]在舌鳞状细胞癌中发现顺铂以Nrf2和ATF4依赖的方式上调xCT(SLC7A11)的表达来增加顺铂耐药性,而干扰xCT表达起到促进顺铂抗肿瘤疗效的作用。同理在头颈肿瘤中亦得到证实[33]。也有研究表明氧化铁纳米载体介导的活性氧生成增强顺铂化疗敏感性[48]。GPX4抑制剂RSL3通过增加肿瘤细胞ROS的积累和提高细胞LIP水平触发细胞铁死亡,从而增强顺铂抗肿瘤疗效[49-50],发现抑制Nrf2可逆转对RSL3诱导的铁死亡的耐药性[51]。在多形性胶质母细胞瘤中发现xCT过表达增强氧化应激的抵抗力从而抑制肿瘤细胞铁死亡,导致对替莫唑胺的化学敏感性降低[28,52]。也有研究发现通过激活铁死亡来增加胶质母细胞瘤干细胞对替莫唑胺的敏感性,表明胶质母细胞瘤干细胞中铁死亡的触发可能是胶质母细胞瘤治疗的一个新途径[53-55]。

随着各种铁死亡诱导剂及抑制剂的研发,加速了铁死亡与化疗增敏机制研究的进程[56]。在头颈肿瘤

及直肠癌中研究发现铁死亡诱导剂 sulfasalazine 通过抑制 system Xc-增强肿瘤细胞对顺铂的敏感性^[33-34]。而 Ye 等^[57]在 p53 突变型下咽鳞状细胞癌细胞 Detroit562 中联合使用铁死亡诱导剂 RSL3+低浓度紫杉醇 (PTX), 结果表明 RSL3 和低浓度 PTX 联合通过上调 p53 表达来促进肿瘤细胞铁死亡, 从而协同抑制肿瘤生长。有研究发现不同剂量的铁死亡诱导剂 erastin 其作用略有差异, 在 5 μ mol/L 时诱导急性髓系白血病细胞发生铁死亡, 在 1.5 μ mol/L 时增强阿糖胞苷和阿霉素的抗肿瘤敏感性^[58]; 而在 10 μ mol/L 时增强顺铂对卵巢癌顺铂耐药细胞 A2780-DDP 的杀伤力^[59]。有研究表明抑制 ATF4/HSPA5/GPX4 途径和抑制 xCT 增强了胰腺导管癌对顺铂和吉西他滨的敏感性^[60-61]; 而在非小细胞肺癌细胞中发现 GSH-GPXs 系统参与顺铂影响铁死亡的机制, 顺铂联合 erastin 增加顺铂抗癌毒性, 却被铁死亡抑制剂 Ferrostatin-1 逆转^[62]。Erastin 和 sorafenib 通过抑制 Nrf2/xCT 铁死亡通路来诱发顺铂耐药的肺癌细胞铁死亡^[29], 而抑制 STAT3 / Nrf2 / GPX4 通路可以增强顺铂对骨肉瘤顺铂耐药细胞株的敏感性^[30]。最近, Zhou 等^[32]研究发现铁死亡诱导剂 erastin 可以逆转卵巢癌中 ABCB1 介导的多西他赛耐药性, 这提示 erastin 和多西他赛的联合可能让已经耐药的卵巢癌患者治疗获益。Hangauer 和 Viswanathan 等^[26,63]发现获得性耐药的癌细胞具有 GPX4 依赖性, 靶向 GPX4 可能成为预防或治疗患者获得性耐药的治疗策略。因此, 进一步阐明铁死亡在肿瘤化疗中的作用与机制, 对于肿瘤患者的治疗增敏具有巨大的临床意义。

2.2 铁死亡与肿瘤放射治疗

放射治疗 (RT) 作为有效的癌症治疗手段之一, RT 是目前约 60% 癌症患者的一线治疗方法^[64]。RT 是利用来自外部光束或内部放置的放射源的电离辐射 (IR) 来诱导各种细胞成分的损伤, 如产生一系列自由基, 造成 DNA 损伤^[64], 从而导致细胞周期停滞、衰老和各种细胞死亡模式^[65-66]。除了直接损伤 DNA 之外, IR 还可以引起间接的细胞效应。如 IR 通过细胞水的放射分解和氧化酶的刺激产生活性氧物种 (ROS), 如羟基自由基和过氧化氢, 导致细胞损伤, 这可能会损伤核酸、蛋白质和脂质^[67]。在实体肿瘤中的缺氧环境极大地限制了放射治疗的效果, 因为 DNA 在暴露于 X 射线后会破坏其双链结构, 低氧条件下

会修复自由氧基诱导的 DNA 双链断裂^[68-69]。因此, 在体内提高肿瘤微环境内 O₂ 浓度, 从而改变肿瘤细胞缺氧状态达到放疗增敏^[70-71]。

研究发现金纳米颗粒 (AuNPs) 在 X 射线和 UV 辐射下诱导活性氧的产生, 其有作为放射增敏剂的潜力^[72-73], 而精氨酸-甘氨酸-天冬氨酸 (RGD) 肽与聚乙二醇化的金纳米颗粒 (P-AuNPs) 结合形成的 RGD/P-AuNPs 可抑制放疗后乳腺癌细胞的侵袭性^[74]。内化的 RGD/RGD 共轭介孔二氧化硅包裹金纳米棒与放疗联合治疗可协同诱导 MDA-MB-231 细胞 G2/M 期阻滞、促进 ROS 生成, 从而增强乳腺癌细胞放射敏感性^[75]。早期, Ivanov 等^[76]学者在动物实验中发现 RT 前运用含铁的水 (ICW) 可通过凋亡和铁死亡的结合刺激胶质瘤细胞死亡, 从而提高治疗效率, 而其疗效却被铁螯合剂 DFO 抑制。因此, 进一步深入研究铁死亡机制为放疗增敏具有巨大临床价值。已有研究表明铁死亡诱导剂 RSL3、erastin、sorafenib 和 sulfasalazine 在神经胶质瘤、肺癌、纤维肉瘤、黑色素瘤、乳腺癌和宫颈癌等模型中协同增强放射疗效^[4,5,77-82]。Lei 等^[5]学者发现 IR 或 Keap1 缺失诱导的 SLC7A11 过表达通过抑制铁死亡来促进辐射抵抗, 而铁死亡诱导剂 FINS (erastin、sulfasalazine、RSL3、FIN56 和 ML162) 灭活 SLC7A11 或 GPX4 可使耐辐射癌细胞和异种移植瘤对 IR 增敏。Lang 等^[4]研究发现放射治疗会导致肿瘤细胞铁死亡, 通过铁死亡诱导剂 erastin、sulfasalazine、RSL3 可促进肿瘤细胞的放射增敏, 而铁死亡拮抗剂限制放射疗效。其原理分别来自免疫治疗激活的 CD8⁺T 细胞和放射激活 ATM 产生的干扰素 γ (IFN γ) 协同抑制 SLC7A11, 使得胱氨酸摄取减少, 脂质氧化作用增强, 从而促进肿瘤细胞铁死亡, 改善肿瘤控制^[4]。通过干扰铁死亡相关基因表达或使用铁死亡诱导剂 (或抑制剂) 来调控肿瘤细胞铁死亡水平从而增强或抑制其放疗疗效, 这些研究揭示了铁死亡与放疗增敏之间存在的分子机制, 为进一步阐明铁死亡在放疗增敏中的机制提供了理论基础, 对于临床患者放疗增敏的铁死亡相关药物的研发具有开创性意义。

2.3 铁死亡与肿瘤靶向治疗

分子靶向疗法是指通过干扰对肿瘤进展至关重要的特定分子来阻止癌症生长和扩散的一类药物^[83]。癌症靶向治疗的潜在革命性成功于 1998 年首次得到认可, 当时抗酪氨酸激酶受体 HER2 (ErbB2) 的单

克隆抗体曲妥珠单抗(Herceptin®)被FDA批准用于治疗HER2阳性的转移性乳腺癌患者^[84]。后来伊马替尼靶向结构激活的Bcr-Abl被批准用于治疗慢性粒细胞白血病(CML),这是第一个合理设计的小分子抑制剂,被认为开启了抗癌药物开发的新纪元^[85]。随着可用于临床的靶向抗癌药物种类迅速增加,抗癌药开发的概念革命也随之而来。

目前,分子靶向癌症治疗仍然面临着高失败率、治疗耐药和极少数受益患者的挑战。人类开始探索靶向治疗增敏的机制,铁死亡进入我们的视线,为研究提供了理论基础。Tsoi等^[31]研究发现铁死亡诱导剂erastin大大增强了vemurafenib对黑色素瘤细胞M229R和M238R的杀伤能力。Sorafenib作为铁死亡诱导剂,也是多靶点受体酪氨酸激酶抑制剂,其通过抑制细胞膜SLC7A11,减少细胞内胱氨酸(cysteine)的摄取,降低GSH的合成,从而诱导细胞铁死亡^[86]。Louandre等^[35]发现sorafenib在肝癌Huh7细胞诱发氧化应激,而去铁胺阻止这种氧化应激,说明铁离子和脂质ROS在肝癌靶向治疗中起重要作用,从而推断sorafenib是通过诱导细胞发生铁死亡而应用到肝癌靶向治疗中。在肝癌细胞中sorafenib诱导癌细胞中金属硫蛋白-1G(MT-1G)基因的表达,而MT-1G通过抑制铁死亡促进sorafenib耐药^[87-88]。也有学者发现厄洛替尼可通过抑制EGFR导致头颈肿瘤细胞发生氧化应激,说明TKI类药物能够诱导活性氧的生成,从而诱导铁死亡^[89];溶酶体干扰剂西拉美新和双重酪氨酸激酶抑制剂(TKI)拉帕替尼联合应用,可协同诱导铁死亡介导的乳腺癌细胞死亡^[90-92]。Sun等^[21]研究发现抑制p62-Keap1-Nrf2通路可显著增强erastin和sorafenib在体内外对肝癌细胞的抗癌活性,而p62-Keap1-Nrf2通路参与铁死亡的调控,表明p62-Keap1-Nrf2抗氧化信号通路是HCC细胞中铁死亡的关键性负调控通路,同时也反映诱导铁死亡可促进靶向治疗增敏。因此,探寻铁死亡相关通路中的关键基因,可能是促进肿瘤靶向增敏的新靶标的有效途径。

2.4 铁死亡与肿瘤免疫治疗

免疫疗法是目前抗肿瘤有前景的治疗手段之一,它是通过激活免疫系统并增强其固有的癌症治疗能力来实现的^[93]。以程序性细胞死亡1(PD-1)/程序性死亡配体1(PD-L1)免疫检查点途径为靶点的肿

瘤免疫治疗开创了现代肿瘤学时代^[94]。阻断PD-1或PD-L1的药物促进内源性抗肿瘤免疫,由于其广泛的活性谱,已被认为是癌症治疗的共同点^[94]。免疫治疗其引起自身免疫的潜在毒性存在以及肿瘤免疫逃逸作为主要障碍阻碍免疫疗法的广泛临床应用^[95]。此外,免疫疗法用于实体瘤的治疗效果达不到预期的,由于实体肿瘤内肿瘤相关的成纤维细胞(TAF)产生的致密细胞外基质(ECM)所形成的物理屏障使得现有药物递送障碍^[96]。因此,增强免疫细胞对肿瘤细胞的识别和杀伤能力是免疫治疗及研究的主要策略方向。

近年来,已发现铁死亡与免疫调节密切相关^[4,6,97-98]。最新研究表明,有构建了一种仿生磁小体,以促进铁死亡/免疫调节在癌症治疗中的协同作用^[97]。在肿瘤中,TGF- β 抑制剂和PD-1抗体可以协同产生免疫原性微环境并提高H₂O₂含量,从而促进铁离子参与的Fenton反应,引发肿瘤细胞的铁死亡,而细胞死亡后释放的肿瘤抗原反过来又促进了微环境的免疫原性^[97]。结果表明,铁死亡和免疫调节的周期性协同作用在体内获得了有效的抗肿瘤活性^[97]。Sun等^[98]研发了sorafenib和二氢卟吩e6(Ce6)共同负载的活性氧(ROS)反应性纳米颗粒(NP-sfb/Ce6)。其原理是在660nm激光照射下,Ce6产生的活性氧(ROS)破坏了纳米粒,促进了sorafenib的级联释放。快速释放的sorafenib与低剂量的PDT协同作用,通过诱导强大的T细胞依赖的局部和系统抗肿瘤免疫反应,重塑肿瘤免疫微环境,限制细胞毒性CD8⁺T细胞与免疫抑制细胞之间的相互作用,从而抑制肿瘤进展^[98]。研究发现免疫疗法可通过调控肿瘤细胞铁死亡使肿瘤治疗敏感^[4]。而Wang等^[6]发现免疫治疗激活的CD8⁺T细胞增强了肿瘤细胞内铁死亡特异性脂质过氧化,铁死亡的增强有助于免疫治疗的抗肿瘤疗效。其机制是CD8⁺T细胞可通过释放IFN γ 来下调SLC3A2和SLC7A11的表达,从而减少胱氨酸的摄取并促进肿瘤细胞内脂质过氧化^[6]。他们的发现弥合了铁死亡与免疫疗法之间的鸿沟,为恶性肿瘤治疗中的铁死亡—免疫疗法协同增效奠定了理论基础。同时,为进一步深入探索铁死亡分子机制促进免疫治疗疗效提供了方向。

2.5 铁死亡与其他肿瘤治疗

目前在临床中的治疗方案远远不能令人满意。

将新兴的生物学发现和技术创新与传统治疗方法相结合,成为肿瘤高效治疗的发展趋势。现已有研究铁死亡相关纳米制剂联合肿瘤治疗达到肿瘤治疗增敏,并得到相关预期成果^[33,97-100]。除了与肿瘤经典治疗相结合外,还有研究了铁死亡和光疗的联合治疗效果,已达到有效的肿瘤治疗疗效^[98,101-105]。这些研究主要集中在铁死亡和光动力疗法(PDT)的结合上,因为它们与 ROS 和 O₂ 有内在的联系^[103-104]。PDT 被认为是癌症的一种非侵入性治疗方法,但是由于高的组织间隙压力和肿瘤血管畸形,PDT 的治疗效率可能会受到实体瘤内低氧的影响^[104,106]。因此,长期以来,在肿瘤微环境中补充氧气一直被认为是促进 PDT 的有效策略^[104,106]。值得注意的是,细胞铁死亡可以产生 ROS 并提供 O₂,这可能与 PDT 有协同作用^[104-105]。Zhu 等^[103]提出了铁死亡促进的光动力疗法(PDT)的概念,用于协同治疗癌症。他们制备了 Ce6(光敏剂)和 erastin(铁死亡诱导剂)共同组装的纳米系统^[103]。结果表明在肿瘤局部照射下 Ce6-erastin 纳米组装体产生了大量的毒性活性氧,对小鼠异种移植瘤显示出强大的抗肿瘤活性^[103]。也有研究发现铁死亡诱导剂 sorafenib 与 PDT 协同作用^[98,107],而铁死亡抑制剂 DFO 逆转 PDT 的抗肿瘤能力^[108]。He 等^[105]研究小组开发了一种以氧化石墨烯(GO)为基础的氢氧化铁/氧化物修饰的纳米系统(GO-FeOxH),用于纳米材料驱动的 PDT 和铁死亡^[105]。随着科技的进步,人类一直在探索治疗肿瘤的路上。最近,Guan 等^[109]将 SRF 和超小型 SPIO 纳米颗粒被负载到 MPDA NPs 的介孔和表面形成 SRF@MPDA-SPIO 纳米药物。该纳米药物对 pH、温度和谷胱甘肽有反应,从而释放出铁/亚铁离子和 SRF,可用于 MR 成像引导的铁死亡—光热联合疗法^[109]。而 Xiong 等^[110]构建了以阿霉素(DOX)、三氯化铁(FeCl₃)铁死亡诱导剂、单宁酸(TA)细胞内超氧化物歧化酶(SOD)反应激活剂的药物—无机—有机自组装纳米系统(DFTA),建立了基于化疗、铁死亡和光热疗法(PTT)三联疗法的高效纳米系统,用于 ER+乳腺癌的联合治疗。其结果表明 DFTA+激光组通过活性氧(ROS)产生的细胞内氧化应激级联放大和 PTT 介导的 ROS 产生而显著降低细胞内 GSH 水平,其抑瘤率高达 93.38%^[110]。也有以 DOX 与疏水性羰基铁(FeCO)共负载介孔碳纳米粒子(MCN)纳米平台(FeCO-DOX @ MCN)的构建,以

实现化学疗法、PTT 和气体疗法的结合^[111]。结果表明 FeCO-DOX @ MCN 纳米药物可有效杀死乳腺癌细胞,释放的 CO 大大提高了肿瘤细胞对化疗药物的敏感性^[111]。Zhang 等^[112]更是构建了铁死亡、PTT、化疗药物和免疫疗法四者完美结合纳米复合物 FPMF@CpG ODN,对消除原发肿瘤、防止肿瘤复发的疗效更强。而 FePt/MoS₂-FA 纳米复合物(FPMF NCs)^[112]和(FePt@MnO)@DSPE-PEG5000-FA 纳米复合物(FMDF NPs)^[113]可以更好的用于磁共振(MR)成像和计算机断层扫描(CT)成像诊断。这种具有铁死亡与 PTT、化疗药物和免疫疗法等多种治疗方法结合的构思可能为癌症治疗提供新的临床视野。在未来更需要我们不断探索创新,铁死亡机制应用于临床必将将是时代的趋势。

3 展 望

虽然肿瘤生物学和治疗学已经取得了很大进展,但要赢得与癌症的斗争还有很长的路要走。铁死亡有望成为新的治疗靶点,在肿瘤生物学和肿瘤治疗中受到越来越多的关注。在这种非凋亡的细胞死亡方式上,细胞、动物和人类之间可能存在很大的差距,需进一步的研究来弥合差距。铁死亡是一把双刃剑,应充分研究铁死亡关键蛋白或通路的诱导剂或抑制剂的潜在毒副作用,以保证肿瘤特异性地触发 Fenton 反应,避免对正常组织的靶外毒性引起致癌或其他疾病^[114-115]。还应该进一步探索未知的铁死亡关键分子或者通路可为肿瘤治疗提供新靶点,例如近来新发现的 FSP1,是一种与谷胱甘肽无关的铁死亡抑制因子,而 FSP1 最初被命名为 AIFM2,因为它与线粒体促凋亡蛋白凋亡诱导因子(AIFM1)同源^[19],其 NAD(P)H/FSP1/CoQ10 途径是一个独立的平行系统,与 GPX4 和谷胱甘肽协同抑制磷脂过氧化和铁死亡^[18-20]。未来基于铁死亡的高效、安全的抗肿瘤治疗药物的合理设计应考虑多方面的问题。铁死亡的基础研究与临床转化还存在众多的未知和挑战。但我们相信随着铁死亡基础研究的深入,铁死亡诱导剂或增强剂为肿瘤治疗增敏应用到临床将成为可能。未来围绕诱导铁死亡的研究成果必将为肿瘤乃至其他疾病患者带来福音。

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