

·综述·

初始不可切除胃癌转化治疗的研究进展

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【摘要】 胃癌的转化治疗针对初始部分不可切除,但有潜在手术切除机会的胃癌患者,在接受全身系统化疔后,其不可切除因素出现部分或完全缓解,可行R₀切除,从而获得相对较长的术后生存时间和(或)无复发生存时间。既往初始不可切除胃癌转化治疗研究提示,较好的化疗反应率和病理反应率、转化治疗后获得R₀切除是初始不可切除胃癌患者接受转化治疗的独立预后因素,起始非治愈因素为淋巴结转移者的疗效优于腹膜种植者。转化治疗的化疗方案一直在尝试改进,报道的效果也存在差异,但最新的临床研究多提示,以紫杉醇为基础的三药化疗可使初始不可切除胃癌患者获得较高缓解率和R₀切除机会,从而延长生存期。然而,由于初始不可切除胃癌的生物学行为特点高度异质性,并非均能从转化治疗中获益。对数量如此庞大的初始不可切除胃癌患者,筛选出适合转化的病例进行转化治疗、不适合转化治疗则侧重于改善生活质量,将是胃癌治疗领域的热点。但是,目前初始不可切除胃癌转化治疗尚处于初期探索阶段,相关研究主要为一些单中心、小样本的报道,异质性较大,故其可行性、安全性和有效性的循证医学证据不足。目前转化治疗指征、病例选择、方案制定、疗效评价、手术时机、手术切除范围等方面尚无共识,亟需更多高水平的临床研究证据进行验证和指导。所以,胃癌转化治疗需要各方共同努力,通过临床试验不断摸索,完善其诊治标准,并逐步探索和筛选出精细分类基础上的转化治疗最佳获益人群,为临床治疗提供可靠的指导。因此,本文对初始不可切除胃癌的转化治疗研究进展作一综述。

【关键词】 胃肿瘤,初始不可切除; 转化治疗; 研究

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【Abstract】 Conversion therapy is adopted to achieve radical cure for patients with originally unresectable but potentially resectable late stage gastric cancer, who obtain partial or complete remission after systemic chemotherapy, to acquire relatively longer postoperative survival and recurrence-free survival. Some of the previous researches on conversion therapy for originally unresectable gastric cancer suggest that high chemotherapy response rate, high pathological response rate and R0 resection rate are associated with favorable prognosis. And the efficacy of patients with lymphatic metastasis is better than that of those with peritoneal metastasis. The protocol of conversional chemotherapy varies and so does its efficacy according to different reports. Latest clinical researches indicate that initially unresectable gastric cancer gained higher remission rate and better chance of R0 operation and consequently prolonged survival from paclitaxel based triplet chemotherapy. However, not all originally unresectable gastric cancer can benefit from conversion therapy due to the high heterogeneity of its biological behavior. Regarding the enormous number of originally unresectable gastric cancer patients, it will be a research hot spot in the field of surgical oncology, on screening criteria to select cases suitable for conversion. Exploration on conversion therapy for gastric cancer is still at initial stage, and reports that have been published are mostly single-centered with limited sample, lacking of sufficient evidence on its feasibility, safety and efficacy. Expert consensus on conversion indication, case selection, chemotherapy regimen, efficacy assessment and resection range is absent. So it is in urgent need for higher level clinical evidence to support and guide this practice. Such goal can never be achieved without joint efforts of all parties to carry out clinical trial to modify the practice of conversion therapy for late stage gastric cancer, and determine the proper selection of suitable candidates for conversion therapy, eventually to offer optimal strategy for originally unresectable

gastric cancer patients. Thus, this article focuses on reviewing research progress of conversion therapy for originally unresectable late stage gastric cancer.

[Key words] Stomach neoplasms, originally unresectable; Conversion therapy; Study

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全球胃癌发病率和病死率均居恶性肿瘤前列,更为严峻的是,我国及欧美国家的胃癌均以局部进展期为主,不可切除胃癌比例高达10%~35%^[1-2]。不可切除胃癌指初诊时无法在手术学上对病灶进行根治性切除的胃癌,包括难以切除的局部进展期胃癌和远处转移胃癌。而难以切除的局部进展期胃癌是指存在难以切除的受侵犯邻近结构,如胰头、肝门静脉,以及融合或包裹重要血管的胃周淋巴结等;胃癌的远处转移包括腹膜转移、远处淋巴结转移、肝转移和(或)其他远隔器官转移等^[3-4]。根据第4版日本胃癌治疗指南,目前不可切除胃癌治疗以姑息化疗为主^[5]。虽然新化疗药物和分子靶向药物有效改善了不可切除胃癌的预后,将中位生存时间提高至5~14个月,但仍远低于达到完全根治性切除(R₀切除)的晚期胃癌患者^[6]。日、韩、新加坡多中心联合开展的前瞻性随机临床研究REGATTA结果显示,与单纯化疗相比,单个因素不可切除的Ⅳ期胃癌在姑息性胃切除术后联合化疗,并无任何生存获益(中位生存时间:单纯化疗组16.6个月比胃切除术联合术后化疗组14.3个月,P=0.70)^[7]。显然,无论是单纯化疗还是姑息性胃切除术后辅助化疗,对不可切除胃癌的治疗效果都不为乐观。

一、转化治疗的概念、机制及现状

为解决不可切除胃癌治疗上的困境,近年来专家学者们开始聚焦于胃癌的转化治疗,即初始部分不可切除,但有潜在手术切除机会的胃癌患者,在接受全身系统化治疗后,其不可切除因素出现部分或完全缓解,可完成R₀切除手术,从而获得相对较长的术后生存时间和(或)无复发生存时间^[8-9]。转化治疗的目的是利用术前较好的化疗耐受性使肿瘤转化达到R₀切除,尽可能避免R₁/R₂切除手术后大量细胞因子加剧残存的肿瘤病灶侵袭和转移^[10-11]。若先行R₁/R₂切除手术,后再辅助后行辅助化疗,大量残存的肿瘤细胞在手术应激和炎症反应所致的会使各类细胞因子和炎症介质分泌或表达增加,活性增强,并进一步刺激残留胃癌肿瘤细胞自分泌环路活化,使其增殖能力和侵袭转移性大大增强^[12-16]。另外,胃切除术后患者生活质量降低,化疗依从性和耐受性更差,也将影响治疗效果^[7]。

尽管目前转化治疗在晚期结直肠癌治疗中已相当成熟,并成为提高其生存期的重要手段^[17-20]。但胃癌的转化治疗尚处于初期探索阶段,临幊上病例选择、转化指征、化疗

方案、疗效评价、手术时机、研究异质性大等问题还未得到有效解决,仍有待高质量的研究去证实^[3,8]。

二、胃癌转化治疗的有效性和安全性

早期日本和韩国的单中心、小样本研究提示,胃癌转化治疗安全有效^[6,9,21-23]。随后,验证胃癌转化治疗可行性的试验逐渐增多^[24-28]。最近,日本一个多中心研究纳入100例不可切除胃癌行DCS方案(多西他赛、顺铂、S-1)转化治疗,经过转化治疗后33例可序贯手术治疗,而且无围手术期并发症,其中28例(28/33,84.8%)为R₀切除,26例(26/33,78.8%)病理提示化疗反应敏感,行转化手术患者的中位生存时间高达47.8个月(95%CI:28.0~88.5),存在转移病灶转化治疗的患者中,有10%的患者生存期超过5年^[29]。因此,该研究认为胃癌的DCS转化治疗方案安全可靠,可获得比较高的缓解率和转化手术率,并能改善患者的预后。日本岐阜大学研究团队对259例初始不可切除的晚期胃癌患者进行转化治疗,其中84例在化疗后序贯手术切除,且行转化手术的患者围手术期并发症发生率和死亡率与既往临床试验相似,而转化后行R₀切除性和R₁/R₂切除手的术患者中位生存时间分别为41.3个月和21.2个月,提示转化治疗可显著提高初始不可切除胃癌患者的远期生存^[30]。2017年,Fukuchi等^[31]和Einama等^[32]的研究也提示转化治疗可改善初始不可切除胃癌患者的生存。

三、转化治疗的预后影响因素

回顾既往胃癌转化治疗的研究,可以发现一些有益的提示。转化成功的患者中,非治愈因素为远处淋巴结转移者,转化成功后5年生存率高达55.6%,但是对于肝转移和(或)腹膜转移者而言,转化效果并不理想^[9]。而在Suzuki等^[25]的研究中,初始不可切除因素为肝转移或远处淋巴结转移的患者转化成功后,其预后明显优于腹膜转移组的患者。与上述结论相似,Kanda等^[33]也认为初始非治愈因素为淋巴结转移患者转化治疗后的疗效优于腹膜种植患者。基于此, Kim^[34]对43例腹膜转移胃癌患者进行转化治疗,18例可序贯手术切除,其中10例为R₀切除,且其中位生存时间为37个月,3年生存率达到50%,而8例R₁/R₂切除患者的中位生存时间也显著高于单纯化疗患者(18个月比8个月)。该研究提示,即使是转化效果较差、非治愈因素为腹膜转移的患者,转化治疗仍能够明显改善患者生存。Okabe等^[28]和Han等^[27]均认为对于化疗反应较好的腹膜转移胃癌患者,转化治疗能够明显改善其生存预后,甚至达到治愈的可能。

除了肿瘤因素外,化疗反应性和转化后能否行R₀切除也是转化治疗重要的独立预后因素。Sato等^[29]和Fukuchi等^[35]的研究结果均表明,较高的化疗反应率及相应的病理缓解率和R₀切除率是转化治疗改善不可切除胃癌患者预后、获得长期术后生存时间的关键。同时期的其他胃癌转化治疗相关研究也提示,转化治疗后可切除性是改善预后的独立预测因素^[23,26,35-36]。在此基础上,研究进一步发现,转化手术为R₀切除的患者,其生存明显优于R₁/R₂切除患者^[27,30]。

四、转化化治疗方案的演变与选择

1997年,日本Nakajima等^[9]报道了30例初始不可切除的胃癌患者,经过2个周期的FLEP方案(氟尿嘧啶、亚叶酸、顺铂、依托泊苷)化疗后,总体化疗反应率为50%,19例化疗后可序贯手术切除,其中9例(47%)为R₀切除,10例(53%)为R₁/R₂切除。日本大阪大学的研究团队报道的33例初始不可切除胃癌患者行FEMTXP化疗方案(氟尿嘧啶、表阿霉素、甲氨蝶呤、顺铂)或THP-FLPM方案(吡柔比星、氟尿嘧啶、亚叶酸钙、顺铂、丝裂霉素C)后,14例可序贯手术切除(14/33,42.4%),其中8例为R₀切除,生存预后明显改善^[21]。虽然早期研究初步提示了胃癌转化治疗的可行性,但化疗方案的异质性较大,生存获益也存在差异。

最新的胃癌转化治疗临床研究多提示,以紫杉醇为基础的三药化疗可以使初始不可切除胃癌患者获得较高缓解率和R₀切除机会,从而延长生存期。2010年,Sym等^[37]首先报道了DXP方案(多西紫杉醇、顺铂、卡培他滨)用于49例初始不可切除胃癌转化治疗的研究,31例(31/49,63%)实现了R₀切除,且其中位无进展生存期达到54.3个月,5年生存率高达54%;5例(5/49,10%)可序贯R₁/R₂切除。Mieno等^[38]报道的DCS方案转化初始不可切除胃癌的手术率高达74.2%(23/31),且其围手术期并发症发生率和死亡率与传统手术无差异,而中位疾病无进展期和中位生存期分别达到42.1和56.1个月。在2017年美国临床肿瘤学会(ASCO)年会上,Fukushima也报道了其团队的二期临床研究(XP-IP DOC试验),结果表明DXP用于胃癌转化治疗安全有效。胃癌转化化治疗方案的演变见表1。

五、转化病例的筛选

综上可知,并不是所有初始不可切除胃癌都适合转化治疗。既往研究显示,33%~63%的初始不可切除胃癌转化治疗后可序贯手术切除,而转化治疗后可行R₀切除的比例则更低,大部分研究不高于30%^[9,21,29]。不可切除晚期胃癌异质性较大,一部分患者能从转化治疗中获益,而另一部分则需要侧重于改善患者症状、提高生活质量。但目前胃癌转化治疗的指征、获益人群仍未明确。因此,Yoshida等^[4]根据IV胃癌的生物学行为特点和高度异质性分为无肉眼可见腹膜种植转移(I类和II类)、有肉眼可见腹膜种植转移(III类和IV类),其中I类晚期胃癌患者的转移灶潜在可切除;II类

患者转移灶技术上不可切除,手术获益可能小;III类患者存在不可切除的腹腔种植转移病灶;IV类患者存在明显不可切除腹膜种植转移灶并伴其他远处转移。该研究团队结合前期结果,初步认为胃癌转化治疗的适合人群可能为II类、部分III类、极少数IV类的晚期胃癌,而另外一些不适合转化的不可切除胃癌患者应该注重改善患者症状、提高生活质量^[4]。基于此临床问题,日本岐阜大学研究团队根据Yoshida的晚期胃癌分类法对转化研究的病例进行亚组分析,发现不同类型晚期胃癌的转化治疗获益程度也并不相同,I类晚期胃癌患者行转化手术和未行转化手术的中位生存期分别是28.3个月和5.8个月,II类分别是30.5个月和11.0个月,III类分别是31.0个月和18.5个月,IV类分别是24.7个月和10.0个月^[30]。该研究为Yoshida根据胃癌异质性进行分类的理论提供了临床证据,也为不同类型不可切除胃癌的转化治疗获益不同的研究奠定了基础。

六、胃癌转化治疗的研究现状及未来

目前不可切除胃癌转化治疗尚处于初期探索阶段,相关研究主要为一些单中心、小样本的报道,异质性较大,可行性、有效性和安全性的循证医学证据不足,而且在转化指征、病例选择、方案制定、疗效评价、手术时机、手术切除范围等方面也尚无共识,亟需更多高水平的临床研究证据来验证和指导^[3,8]。随机对照试验(RCT)是评估转化治疗疗效的理想方法,也是最终标准,但面对晚期胃癌本身异质性及研究背景的复杂性,目前国际上连“不可切除”的标准和化疗后“可切除”的标准都不明确,在不同医疗中心,转化治疗的各种标准差异很大,使得开展此方面的RCT在临床实践中极为困难^[8,39]。因此,2017年世界胃癌大会上,胃癌专家Yamaguchi教授提出,IV期胃癌转移部位、大小、数量、毗邻关系等方面复杂不一,治疗的上需要“三步走”:①基于临床痛点的小型队列研究的初步结果;②基于国际回顾性队列研究结果;③前瞻性研究验证转化治疗方案的获益性。亚洲临床肿瘤协会(FACO)也敏锐意识到这个问题,目前正在其覆盖的亚洲国家机构中,包括日本临床肿瘤学会(JSCO)、韩国临床肿瘤学会(KACO)、中国临床肿瘤学会(CSCO)、日本胃癌协会(JGCA)、韩国胃癌协会(KGCA)、中国抗癌协会(CACA)进行一项大型回顾性队列研究(CONVO-GC1),以期为明确初始不可切除胃癌转化治疗的获益人群提供更多

表1 初始不可切除胃癌转化化治疗方案的演变

第一作者	国家	发表时间	病例年份	纳入标准	样本量 (例)	转化化疗方案	化疗反应率及 相应MST(月)	R ₀ 切除率 (%)	R ₁ /R ₂ 切除率(%)
Nakajima ^[9]	日本	1997年	1989~1995	不可切除IV期胃癌	30	FLEP	50%;12.7	30	33
Yano ^[21]	日本	2002年	1994~1999	不可切除胃癌	34	FEMTXP或 THP-FLPM	24%;-	24	18
Sym ^[37]	日本	2010年	2003~2006	不可切除胃癌	49	DXP	65%;-	28	10
Sato ^[29]	日本	2017年	2002~2014	不可切除IV期胃癌	100	DCS	33%;47.8		5
Mieno ^[38]	日本	2017年	2006~2012	不可切除胃癌	31	DCS	87%;56.1	74.2	16
Fukushima	日本	2017年ASCO	-	腹膜转移胃癌	48	DXP	-	40	-

线索。胃癌转化治疗需要各方共同努力,通过临床试验不断摸索、完善其诊治标准,并逐步探索和筛选出精细分类基础上的转化治疗最佳获益人群,为临床治疗提供可靠的个体化指导。

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·读者·作者·编者·

本刊对文稿中统计结果的解释和表达的要求

当 $P < 0.05$ 或 $P < 0.01$ 时, 应说对比组之间的差异具有统计学意义, 而不应说对比组之间具有显著性(或非常显著性)差异; 应写明所用统计分析方法的具体名称(如成组设计资料的 t 检验、两因素析因设计资料的方差分析、多个均数之间两两比较的 q 检验等)和统计量的具体值(如 $t=3.45$, $\chi^2=4.68$, $F=6.79$ 等); 在用不等式表示 P 值的情况下, 一般情况下选用 $P > 0.05$ 、 $P < 0.05$ 和 $P < 0.01$ 三种表达方式即可满足需要, 无须再细分为 $P < 0.001$ 或 $P < 0.0001$ 。当涉及总体参数(如总体均数、总体率等)时, 在给出显著性检验结果的同时, 再给出 95% 可信区间。