

## 研究论文

# 血管紧张素转换酶2激动剂三氮脒减轻小鼠肢体缺血再灌注引发的肺损伤

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**摘要:** 本文旨在探讨血管紧张素转换酶2 (angiotensin converting enzyme 2, ACE2) 激动剂三氮脒(diminazene aceturate, DIZE) 对小鼠肢体缺血再灌注(limb ischemia-reperfusion, LIR)引发的急性肺损伤(acute lung injury, ALI)的作用。雄性8周龄野生型和人ACE2 (hACE2)转基因ICR小鼠随机分为: 野生对照组(W组)、野生模型组(WL组)、野生模型DIZE干预组(WLD组)、hACE2转基因对照组(T组)、hACE2转基因模型组(TL组)和hACE2转基因模型DIZE干预组(TLD组), 每组6只。采用常规止血带套扎双侧后肢的方法复制小鼠LIR模型。各DIZE干预组在LIR前预先腹腔注射DIZE (15 mg/kg), 持续4周。LIR结束时, 计算肺组织脏器系数和湿干质量比(wet/dry weight ratio, W/D); 计数肺泡灌洗液细胞并检测蛋白浓度; HE染色后观察肺组织形态变化并进行病理损伤评分; 用ELISA法测定肺组织中血管紧张素II (angiotensin II, Ang II)和Ang (1-7)水平; 用Western blot检测肺组织血管紧张素II受体1 (angiotensin II type 1 receptor, AT1)和Mas受体蛋白表达变化。结果显示: (1) WL和TL组小鼠均有明显的肺损伤, TL组小鼠肺损伤轻于WL组, 而DIZE可减轻WL和TL组小鼠肺损伤。(2) WL组小鼠肺组织Ang II水平升高, Ang (1-7)水平降低, TL组小鼠这两种蛋白没有明显变化, 而DIZE可降低WL和TL组Ang II水平, 升高WL组Ang (1-7)水平。(3) WL和TL组小鼠肺组织AT1和Mas受体蛋白表达升高, 而DIZE可逆转WL和TL组AT1蛋白表达的变化, 并进一步上调这两组Mas受体蛋白表达。以上结果提示, DIZE可能通过调控局部肺组织ACE2-Ang (1-7)-Mas轴改善肾素-血管紧张素系统稳态失衡, 减轻LIR所致小鼠ALI, 从而发挥保护作用。

**关键词:** 缺血再灌注; 肺损伤; 肾素-血管紧张素系统; 血管紧张素转换酶; 血管紧张素转换酶2; 三氮脒

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## ACE2 agonist DIZE alleviates lung injury induced by limb ischemia-reperfusion in mice

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**Abstract:** This study was aimed to explore the effect of angiotensin converting enzyme 2 (ACE2) agonist diminazene aceturate (DIZE) on acute lung injury (ALI) induced by limb ischemia-reperfusion (LIR) in mice. Male 8-week-old wild-type and hACE2 transgenic ICR mice were randomly divided into 6 groups (6 in each group), including wild-type control (W), wild-type model (WL), wild-type model with DIZE administration (WLD), transgenic control (T), transgenic model (TL), and transgenic model with DIZE administration (TLD) groups. LIR model was established by 4 h reperfusion following 2 h ischemia of bilateral hindlimbs with rubber

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bands in mice. The WLD and TLD groups were pretreated with DIZE (15 mg/kg, i.p.) for 4 weeks before LIR. At the end of LIR, the mice were sacrificed and lung tissues were sampled. Indexes for evaluating lung injury include organ coefficient and wet/dry weight ratio (W/D), cell count and protein concentration of bronchoalveolar lavage fluid (BALF), as well as morphological change and pathological score were detected. Angiotensin II (Ang II) and Ang (1-7) levels in lung tissue were determined by using ELISA commercial kits. And the protein expressions of angiotensin II type 1 receptor (AT1) and Mas receptor protein in lung tissue were detected by Western blot. The results were as follows: (1) There was obvious lung injury in both the WL and TL groups. The lung injury in the TL group was lighter than that in the WL group. DIZE could attenuate the lung injury in both the two groups. (2) The WL group showed increased Ang II and decreased Ang (1-7) levels, whereas the TL group did not exhibit any changes of these two proteins. DIZE decreased the level of Ang II in both the WL and TL groups, and increased the level of Ang (1-7) in the WL group. (3) In the WL and TL groups, AT1 and Mas receptor protein expressions were up-regulated. DIZE reversed the change of AT1 protein expression, whereas further increased Mas receptor expression in both the two groups. These results suggest that DIZE may improve the renin-angiotensin system homeostasis by regulating ACE2-Ang (1-7)-Mas axis in local lung tissue and play a protective role in LIR-induced ALI in mice.

**Key words:** ischemia and reperfusion; lung injury; renin-angiotensin system; angiotensin-converting enzyme; angiotensin converting enzyme 2; diminazene aceturate

肢体缺血再灌注 (limb ischemia-reperfusion, LIR) 在临床上多见于血栓闭塞、栓塞、长时间应用止血带、下肢手术、创伤等情况。LIR 不仅造成局部组织损伤, 还会累及远隔器官。由于肺脏是静脉血回心后首先供血的器官, 其成为最常受 LIR 累及的器官之一, 出现急性肺损伤 (acute lung injury, ALI), 严重时可引起急性呼吸窘迫综合征 (acute respiratory distress syndrome, ARDS)。大量研究证实, 肺组织局部肾素-血管紧张素系统 (renin-angiotensin system, RAS) 稳态失衡参与了 ALI 的发生与发展。其中血管紧张素转换酶 (angiotensin converting enzyme, ACE)-血管紧张素 II (angiotensin II, Ang II)-血管紧张素 II 受体 1 (angiotensin II type 1 receptor, AT1) 与血管紧张素转换酶 2 (angiotensin converting enzyme 2, ACE2)-血管紧张素 (1-7)[angiotensin (1-7), Ang (1-7)]-Mas 受体这两条作用轴的正负调控平衡在这个系统中发挥关键作用。研究已证实, ACE-Ang II-AT1 轴是引起肺损伤的重要因素, 而 ACE2 通过其效应分子 Ang (1-7) 和 Mas 受体的结合, 可显著改善患者和动物模型肺损伤<sup>[1,2]</sup>。近年来, ACE2-Ang (1-7)-Mas 轴在呼吸系统疾病中的作用亦越来越受到重视。本研究组前期研究也显示, LIR 小鼠肺组织 ACE 表达升高, ACE2 表达降低; Ang II/Ang (1-7) 表达失衡; 而敲除小鼠 ACE2 基因可加重肺损伤<sup>[3]</sup>。

三氮脒 (diminazene aceturate, DIZE), 又名贝尼尔、血虫净, 属于芳香双脒类, 传统作为广谱抗血液原虫药, 主要用于治疗锥虫病。近年来研究显示 DIZE 可激活 ACE2, 发挥对多种脏器的保护作用。

然而, DIZE 对 ALI 的作用尚未见文献报道。因此, 本研究观察野生型及人 ACE2 (hACE2) 转基因小鼠发生 LIR 时 RAS 活性因子 Ang II/Ang (1-7)、AT1/Mas 受体蛋白表达和肺损伤的变化, 并探讨 DIZE 干预对这些变化的影响, 以期明确 ACE2 激活或高表达对 LIR 小鼠 ALI 的作用。

## 1 材料和方法

**1.1 实验动物** 实验方案获得华北理工大学伦理委员会的批准, 并严格按照要求操作。野生型 ICR 小鼠由北京维通利华公司提供, 动物合格证号 SCXK(京)2002-0003。hACE2 转基因 ICR 小鼠 F1 代由中国医学科学院实验动物研究所提供, 在华北理工大学实验动物中心 SPF 级动物房繁殖、饲养。随机选取雄性 8 周龄野生型和 hACE2 转基因 ICR 小鼠各 18 只, 体重 25~35 g, 自由进食水。

**1.2 主要试剂** iMark 酶标仪 (美国 Bio-Rad 公司); 双目生物显微镜 (日本 OLYMPUS 公司); 高速冷冻离心机 (美国 DuPont 公司)。DIZE (SIGMA-ALDRICH); Ang II 和 Ang (1-7) ELISA 试剂盒 (武汉华美生物工程有限公司); 兔抗 AT1 受体抗体 (美国 Santa Cruz 公司); 小鼠抗 Mas 受体抗体 (以色列 Alomone Labs 公司); 兔抗  $\beta$ -actin 抗体 (杭州华安生物技术有限公司); BCA 蛋白浓度检测试剂、RIPA 组织蛋白裂解液、彩色预染蛋白分子量标准、醋酸纤维素膜、山羊抗兔、山羊抗小鼠辣根过氧化物酶标记二抗、ECL 发光剂均购自碧云天生物技术研究所。

**1.3 实验分组** 将野生型小鼠随机分为野生对照组(W组)、野生模型组(WL组)、野生模型DIZE干预组(WLD组),每组6只小鼠;将hACE2转基因小鼠随机分为转基因对照组(T组)、转基因模型组(TL组)和转基因模型DIZE干预组(TLD组),每组6只小鼠。WL和TL组小鼠复制LIR模型;WLD和TLD组在复制模型前每日16:00~18:00腹腔注射0.1% DIZE (15 mg/kg),持续给药4周<sup>[4]</sup>;对照组(W和T组)和模型组(WL和TL组)腹腔注射等量生理盐水,持续4周。

**1.4 制备小鼠LIR模型** 采用本课题组常规方法复制小鼠LIR模型<sup>[3]</sup>。小鼠腹腔注射3%水合氯醛(3 mg/kg)麻醉,双后肢根部橡皮圈结扎,缺血2 h后剪断橡皮圈,按摩双后肢恢复血液灌注。于再灌注后4 h麻醉状态下摘除眼球取血处死小鼠,留取肺组织,-80 °C保存。

**1.5 病理组织学检测肺损伤** 将左侧肺浸泡于4%甲醛溶液中,常规方法制作病理组织切片,HE染色,光镜下观察肺组织形态改变。镜下病理改变主要有4种类型:(1)肺泡壁毛细血管扩张充血;(2)肺泡和间质水肿;(3)肺泡壁和血管壁嗜中性粒细胞浸润;(4)肺泡壁增厚。按照病变的严重程度分为5个等级:0分(无损伤);1分(轻度损伤,每个视野损伤范围≤25%);2分(中度损伤,每个视野损伤范围26%~50%);3分(重度损伤,每个视野损伤范围51%~75%);4分(极重度损伤,弥漫性肺损伤,伴有大量炎细胞浸润)。计算视野中4种病变损伤程度的得分总和;随机选取每只小鼠左肺切片的10个随机视野,所获得分的平均值为每组最终得分<sup>[3]</sup>。

**1.6 肺脏系数和湿干质量比(wet/dry weight ratio, W/D)测定** 称量小鼠体重,再取双肺组织,滤纸吸干肺组织表面血液,称量双肺重量。脏器系数=脏器重量/体重×100%;取小鼠右肺上叶,滤纸吸干表面血液后称湿重,置于电热真空干燥箱内,60 °C烘烤72 h<sup>[3]</sup>,称干重,计算W/D。

**1.7 支气管肺泡灌洗液(bronchoalveolar lavage fluid, BALF)细胞计数和蛋白浓度测定** 制备小鼠LIR模型,缺血2 h,再灌注后4 h,麻醉状态下小鼠仰卧位固定,颈部正中切口,分离气管,插入自制气管导管,手术线结扎气管和导管,用1 mL 4 °C预冷的PBS进行肺泡灌洗,灌洗液停留1 min,反复3次后收集;重复灌洗3次,混合3次灌洗液,4 °C

1 500 r/min离心10 min,收集上清。血细胞计数板计数沉淀中细胞总数,BCA法检测上清液中蛋白浓度。

**1.8 ELISA法检测血清和肺组织Ang II和Ang(1-7)含量** 取适量肺组织,于预冷PBS中清洗去除血液;称重;按照组织与PBS的质量体积比为1:5加入PBS;剪碎后超声匀浆;4 °C 3 000 r/min离心15 min,取上清;按照ELISA试剂盒说明操作,酶标仪测定450 nm波长吸光度,绘制标准曲线,计算样品Ang II和Ang(1-7)含量。

**1.9 Western blot检测肺组织AT1和Mas受体蛋白表达** 称取肺组织,加入蛋白裂解液RIPA(1 mL/100 mg),冰上超声匀浆;4 °C 12 000 r/min离心15 min,取上清。BCA法检测上清液中蛋白浓度,并用RIPA调整蛋白浓度至6 μg/μL,与5×上样缓冲液混匀,煮沸10 min;10% SDS-PAGE电泳,90 V转膜,5%脱脂奶粉封闭1 h,一抗4 °C冰箱孵育过夜(抗AT1抗体1:300,抗Mas受体抗体1:300,抗β-actin抗体1:1 000);次日洗膜,辣根过氧化物酶标记二抗37 °C孵育1 h,再次洗膜,ECL显影、成像,Image Lab分析结果,用β-actin作为内参蛋白。

**1.10 统计学分析** 数据以mean±SD表示,采用SPSS 17.0软件进行统计学分析,多组间均数比较采用单因素方差分析(one-way ANOVA),两两比较采用Dunnett's T3检验, $P < 0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。

## 2 结果

### 2.1 肺脏系数和肺W/D

WL组小鼠肺脏系数较W组升高( $P < 0.05$ ),WLD组脏系数较WL组下降( $P < 0.05$ );hACE2转基因小鼠各组的变化趋势与野生型各组一致,而且TL组脏系数较WL组降低( $P < 0.05$ )(图1A)。

WL组小鼠肺W/D较W组升高( $P < 0.05$ ),WLD组肺W/D较WL组下降( $P < 0.05$ );hACE2转基因小鼠各组肺W/D的变化有类似趋势,但TL组较T组无显著变化;TL组数值较WL组降低( $P < 0.05$ )(图1B)。

### 2.2 BALF细胞计数和蛋白浓度

LIR后,WL组小鼠BALF细胞计数较W组升高( $P < 0.05$ ),WLD组较WL组下降( $P < 0.05$ );hACE2转基因小鼠的变化趋势与野生型小鼠类似,且TL和TLD组细胞计数分别较WL和WLD组减少( $P < 0.05$ )(图2A)。

LIR 后, WL 组小鼠 BALF 蛋白浓度较 W 组小鼠升高 ( $P < 0.05$ ), WLD 组较 WL 组下降 ( $P < 0.05$ ); hACE2 转基因小鼠三组之间也有类似变化趋势, 但 TL 组较 T 组无显著变化, 而 TL 组蛋白浓度较 WL 组降低 ( $P < 0.05$ ) (图 2B)。

### 2.3 肺组织病理变化及肺损伤评分

肉眼观察对照组肺组织体积正常, 颜色淡红而有弹性; 模型组肺组织体积增大, 呈暗红色, 偶可见出血。光镜下观察结果显示, W 和 T 组肺泡结构清晰, 肺泡壁完整, 间质无充血、水肿和炎症细胞浸润 (图 3A); WL 和 TL 组肺泡毛细血管扩张, 充血; 肺泡和间质水肿; 血管壁和支气管壁炎细胞浸润; 肺泡间隔增厚伴炎细胞浸润, 肺气肿等病理改变 (图 3A), 但 TL 组的病理变化轻于 WL 组。无论肉眼观

察还是镜下所见, DIZE 干预组 (WLD 和 TLD 组) 肺损伤病理改变均轻于模型组 (WL 和 TL 组), 并且 TLD 组病理减轻程度较 WLD 组更为明显 (图 3A)。

WL 组小鼠肺损伤评分较 W 组升高 ( $P < 0.05$ ), WLD 组肺损伤评分低于 WL 组 ( $P < 0.05$ ); hACE2 转基因小鼠出现同样的变化趋势, 而且 TL 组较 WL 组、TLD 组较 WLD 组肺损伤评分明显降低 ( $P < 0.05$ )。

### 2.4 肺组织和血清 Ang II 和 Ang(1-7) 含量

WL 组小鼠肺组织 Ang II 水平较 W 组升高 ( $P < 0.05$ ), WLD 组较 WL 组下降 ( $P < 0.05$ )。TL 和 TLD 组 Ang II 水平分别较 WL 和 WLD 组下降 ( $P < 0.05$ ) (图 4A)。

WL 组肺组织 Ang (1-7) 水平高于 W 组 ( $P <$

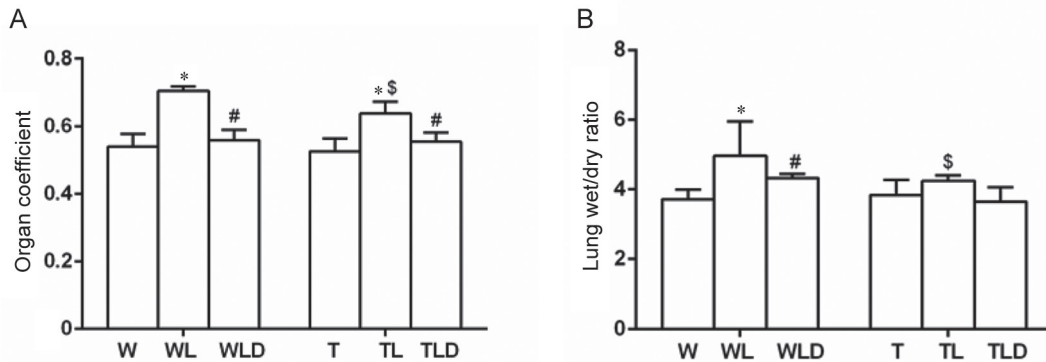


图 1. 野生及hACE2转基因小鼠不同组别肺脏器系数和湿干质量比

Fig. 1. The organ coefficient (A) and wet/dry ratio (B) of lung tissue in different groups of wild-type and hACE2 transgenic mice. Mean  $\pm$  SD,  $n = 6$ . \* $P < 0.05$  vs control group (W and T respectively); # $P < 0.05$  vs model group (WL and TL respectively); <sup>§</sup> $P < 0.05$  vs WL group. W, wild-type control group; WL, wild-type model group; WLD, wild-type model with DIZE group; T, transgenic control group; TL, transgenic model group; TLD, transgenic model with DIZE group.

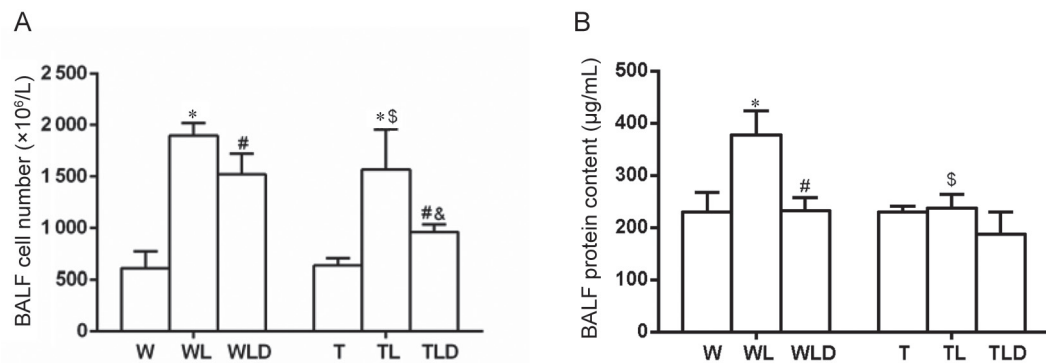


图 2. 野生及hACE2转基因小鼠不同组别支气管肺泡灌洗液细胞计数和蛋白浓度

Fig. 2. The cell number (A) and protein concentration (B) in bronchoalveolar lavage fluid (BALF) in different groups of wild-type and hACE2 transgenic mice. Mean  $\pm$  SD,  $n = 6$ . \* $P < 0.05$  vs control group (W and T respectively); # $P < 0.05$  vs model group (WL and TL respectively); <sup>§</sup> $P < 0.05$  vs WL group; <sup>&</sup> $P < 0.05$  vs WLD group. W, wild-type control group; WL, wild-type model group; WLD, wild-type model with DIZE group; T, transgenic control group; TL, transgenic model group; TLD, transgenic model with DIZE group.

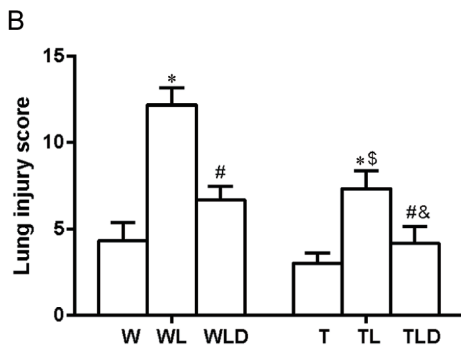
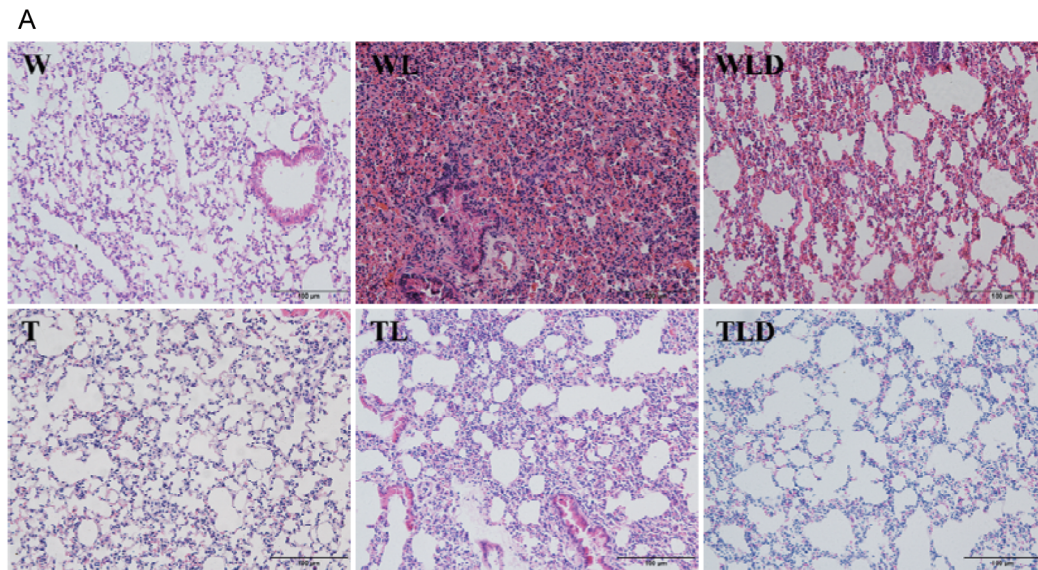


图 3. 野生及hACE2转基因小鼠各组肺损伤病理变化和肺组织损伤评分

Fig. 3. Lung pathological damage (A) and injury score (B) in different groups of wild-type and hACE2 transgenic mice. Scale bar, 100  $\mu$ m. Mean  $\pm$  SD,  $n = 6$ . \* $P < 0.05$  vs control group (W and T respectively); # $P < 0.05$  vs model group (WL and TL respectively); § $P < 0.05$  vs WL group; & $P < 0.05$  vs WLD group. W, wild-type control group; WL, wild-type model group; WLD, wild-type model with DIZE group; T, transgenic control group; TL, transgenic model group; TLD, transgenic model with DIZE group.

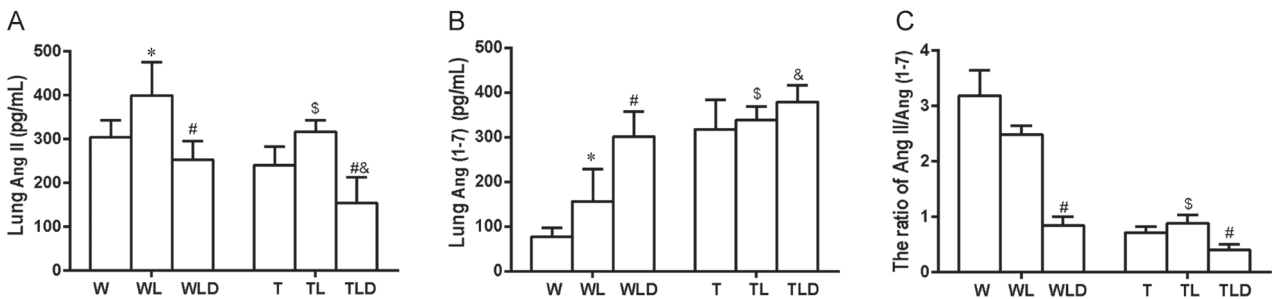


图 4. 野生及hACE2转基因小鼠各组肺组织血管紧张素II和血管紧张素(1-7)水平变化

Fig. 4. Changes of Ang II and Ang (1-7) levels in lung tissue in different groups of wild-type and hACE2 transgenic mice. The levels of Ang II and Ang (1-7) were examined by ELISA. A: Lung Ang II level; B: Lung Ang (1-7) level; C: The ratio of Ang II/Ang 1-7. Mean  $\pm$  SD,  $n = 6$ . \* $P < 0.05$  vs control group (W and T respectively); # $P < 0.05$  vs model group (WL and TL respectively); § $P < 0.05$  vs WL group; & $P < 0.05$  vs WLD group. W, wild-type control group; WL, wild-type model group; WLD, wild-type model with DIZE group; T, transgenic control group; TL, transgenic model group; TLD, transgenic model with DIZE group.

0.05), WLD组高于WL组( $P < 0.05$ ); hACE2转基因小鼠变化趋势与野生型相似,但T和TL组之间无明显差异;TL组和TLD组肺组织Ang(1-7)水平分别高于WL组和WLD组( $P < 0.05$ )(图4B)。

比较各组Ang II和Ang(1-7)比值,转基因各

组的比值均较野生型各组减低,且WLD组和TLD组的比值分别显著低于WL和TL组( $P < 0.05$ )(图4C)。

### 2.5 肺组织AT1和Mas受体蛋白表达

与W组相比,WL组AT1蛋白表达升高( $P < 0.05$ ),WLD组蛋白表达较WL组下降( $P < 0.05$ );

hACE2 转基因各组出现了类似的变化趋势, TL 和 TLD 组 AT1 蛋白表达水平分别较 WL 和 WLD 组明显降低 ( $P < 0.05$ ) (图 5A, B)。

WL 组 Mas 受体蛋白表达较 W 组升高 ( $P < 0.05$ ),

WLD 组蛋白表达较 WL 组升高; hACE2 转基因小鼠出现了类似的变化趋势; TL 和 TLD 组 Mas 受体蛋白表达水平分别较 WL 和 WLD 组升高 ( $P < 0.05$ ) (图 5A, C)。

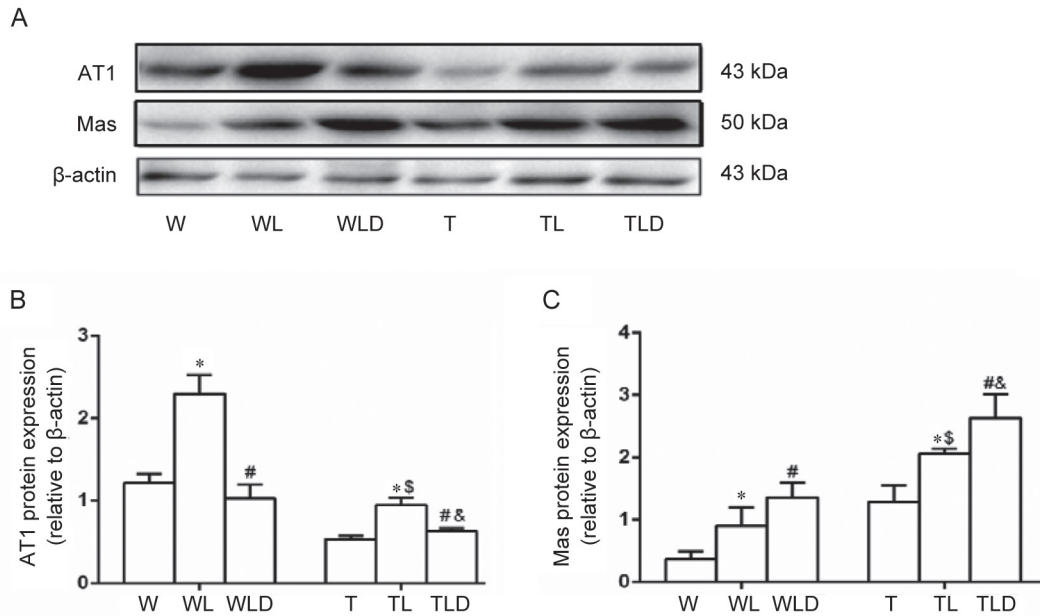


图 5. 野生及hACE2转基因小鼠各组肺组织AT1、Mas受体蛋白表达

Fig. 5. Expressions of AT1 and Mas receptor proteins in different groups of wild-type and hACE2 transgenic mice. Protein levels of AT1 and Mas receptor were examined by Western blot. *A*: Image of representative blots; *B*: AT1 expression; *C*: Mas receptor protein expression. Mean  $\pm$  SD,  $n = 6$ . \* $P < 0.05$  vs control group (W and T respectively); # $P < 0.05$  vs model group (WL and TL respectively); \$ $P < 0.05$  vs WL group; & $P < 0.05$  vs WLD group. W, wild-type control group; WL, wild-type model group; WLD, wild-type model with DIZE group; T, transgenic control group; TL, transgenic model group; TLD, transgenic model with DIZE group.

### 3 讨论

本研究结果显示, 野生型和 hACE2 转基因型 LIR 小鼠肺组织 Ang II 水平及 AT1 受体蛋白表达均升高; 肺组织出现肺泡毛细血管扩张, 充血、肺泡和间质水肿、肺泡间隔增厚、炎细胞浸润等病理学表现; 肺组织 W/D、脏器系数、BALF 细胞计数及蛋白浓度显著提高, 提示 Ang II 有可能通过 AT1 受体引起 ALI。ALI/ARDS 是由多种原因引起的、以急性进行性呼吸衰竭为主要表现的复杂病理状态, 具有较高的发病率和病死率。ALI 早期即有炎症反应和肺细胞损伤性改变, 随后出现胶原沉积、肺纤维化等变化。临床和实验研究已经证实, 经典 RAS 在 ALI 中发挥重要作用。循环和局部组织中均存在 RAS, 调节体内多个脏器的功能。其中, ACE 水解 Ang I 生成 Ang II, 通过 AT1 受体发挥调节血压和水钠平衡、收缩血管、促炎症和增殖等作用。

Ang II 在肺损伤中的作用已得到广泛认可。Ang II 诱导超氧化物的产生, 上调 NADPH 氧化酶的活性, 激活 NF- $\kappa$ B, 调控多种炎症因子的表达<sup>[5]</sup>; Ang II 促进肺泡上皮细胞和肺血管内皮细胞凋亡, 导致肺泡和微血管屏障功能破坏, 毛细血管通透性增加, 促进炎症细胞浸润和水肿形成; 此外, Ang II 还抑制肺组织上皮细胞 Na<sup>+</sup> 通道, 下调水通道蛋白 AQP-1 和 AQP-5 的表达, 肺泡液体清除率降低<sup>[6]</sup>。

研究表明, ACE2 在肺损伤、肺纤维化、炎症等多种肺部疾病中发挥保护作用。在肺血管内皮和肺泡上皮均可检测到 ACE2, 它能降低肺泡灌洗液 Ang II/Ang (1-7) 的比例, 上调 Mas 受体 mRNA 表达, 减轻脂多糖诱导的 ALI<sup>[7]</sup>; 在博来霉素<sup>[8-11]</sup>和呼吸道合胞病毒<sup>[12]</sup>所致的动物模型中, ACE2 抑制肺动脉内皮细胞凋亡, 降低血管通透性。反之, 敲除小鼠 ACE2 基因, 可加重 ACE/ACE2 和 Ang II/Ang (1-7)

的不平衡状态,使肺损伤变化加重<sup>[3]</sup>;在酸吸入、脓毒症、盲肠结扎穿孔术所致的小鼠ALI中,ACE2基因缺陷小鼠发生的肺损伤,比野生型、ACE和AT1受体基因缺陷小鼠更为严重,如果给予合成ACE2,损伤程度明显减轻<sup>[13,14]</sup>。作为ACE2的效应分子Ang(1-7),通过Mas受体激活内皮型一氧化氮合酶,调节血管内皮功能,减轻大鼠损伤肺组织中中性粒细胞浸润,预防肺动脉高压和右心室肥大的发生<sup>[15]</sup>。本研究采用了hACE2转基因小鼠,在内源性小鼠ACE2启动子的调控下,转基因小鼠肺、肾、心和小肠均表达hACE2基因<sup>[16]</sup>,且肺组织ACE2 mRNA和蛋白水平均高于野生型小鼠<sup>[3]</sup>。本研究结果显示,转基因小鼠肺组织Ang(1-7)和Mas受体表达较野生型小鼠上调,而各组Ang II/Ang(1-7)比值较野生型相应各组明显降低,这个结果和ACE2促进Ang II水解生成Ang(1-7)有关,与我们前期研究结果<sup>[3]</sup>一致。LIR后,转基因小鼠(TL组)的肺组织病理变化较野生型减轻;肺W/D和BALF蛋白浓度与对照组(T组)相比无显著差异。这些结果均提示,ACE2-Ang(1-7)-Mas轴在肺损伤过程中发挥着重要调节作用。

为进一步证实ACE2-Ang(1-7)-Mas轴在肺损伤过程的保护作用,本研究给予ACE2激活剂DIZE干预,观察前述各指标的变化。DIZE是传统抗锥虫病药物,DIZE选择性阻断锥虫动基体的DNA合成和复制,并与核产生不可逆性结合,从而使锥虫的动基体消失,不能分裂繁殖<sup>[17]</sup>。但该作用是否与心肺保护作用有关尚未见文献报道。近年来研究显示,DIZE可增加ACE2活性<sup>[18]</sup>,提高ACE2的催化效率,促进Ang(1-7)的生成,降低Ang II水平和AT1受体的表达<sup>[19]</sup>,从而发挥抗高血压<sup>[20]</sup>和对心、肾和胃<sup>[21-23]</sup>的保护作用;DIZE还可通过增加抗氧化剂和抗炎因子水平等多种途径抑制炎症反应,可治疗内毒素诱导的葡萄膜和视网膜炎<sup>[19,24]</sup>。DIZE能有效改善心肌梗死大鼠的心脏重构,增加心脏和肾脏ACE2活性和mRNA表达,降低ACE活性和mRNA表达,这些效应可被ACE2抑制剂C16阻断,而对ACE2缺失的小鼠没有影响<sup>[21,25]</sup>;本研究结果显示,DIZE干预后,LIR模型小鼠肺损伤指标明显好转;肺组织Ang II水平降低、Ang(1-7)水平升高、Ang II/Ang(1-7)比值降低;肺组织AT1受体表达下调,Mas受体表达上调,而且TLD组各项指标的变化较WLD组更为明显。结合我们前

期研究结果<sup>[3]</sup>,这些证据提示,DIZE可通过激活ACE2,继而激活Ang(1-7)-Mas轴发挥对肺损伤的减轻作用;在转基因高表达ACE2小鼠,DIZE可进一步改善RAS稳态失衡,减轻肺损伤。

然而关于DIZE的作用,有学者得到了不一致的研究结果。Haber等<sup>[26]</sup>在小鼠和大鼠的体内和体外实验中证实,DIZE不影响血浆或肾脏ACE2活性,也不影响血浆Ang II和Ang(1-7)水平;Velkoska等<sup>[27]</sup>研究也显示,DIZE不能改变肾切除大鼠心脏ACE2和Ang(1-7)的活性,而是通过抑制ACE2从细胞膜裂解,间接保持ACE2水平,减少Ang II的生成,从而发挥改善心肌纤维化和心脏舒张功能的作用。综合上述研究证据,DIZE在多种疾病中的确发挥了保护作用,但其是否作为ACE2的激动剂激活ACE2,继而激活ACE2-Ang(1-7)-Mas受体轴发挥作用,尚需在不同的疾病和动物模型中进行证实,我们推测DIZE对ACE2的激活作用可能存在器官特异性。此外,本研究为预防性干预,在肺损伤出现之前给予DIZE 4周激活ACE2,防止肺损伤时出现的ACE2下调,在此条件下观察保护作用。DIZE治疗作用以及最佳的治疗时间窗还有待于进一步探讨。已有文献证实了DIZE在心肌损伤模型中的治疗作用<sup>[21]</sup>;而且,DIZE不易被降解、价格低廉、容易获得,已被用于人类受试者<sup>[18]</sup>。

综上所述,肺组织局部ACE/ACE2和Ang II/Ang(1-7)稳态失衡,在LIR造成的ALI中具有重要作用;高表达ACE2和DIZE干预均可激活ACE2-Ang(1-7)-Mas受体轴,从而减轻ALI。针对ACE2的RAS稳态调节,可以起到对肺损伤的保护作用,但具体机制有待进一步研究。

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