### Original Experimental Research 实验论著 �

## 美替拉酮阻断下丘脑-垂体-肾上腺皮质轴及加味逍遥丸对慢性心理应激小鼠免疫系统的影响

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[摘要] 目的:探讨美替拉酮阻断下丘脑-垂体-肾上腺皮质轴(hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal cortex axis, HPAA)对慢性心理应激小鼠免疫器官和细胞免疫功能有无保护作用,以及加味逍遥丸调节慢性心理应激损伤的作用是否与下丘脑-垂体-肾上腺皮质轴相关。方法:将小鼠随机分为生理盐水对照组、加味逍遥丸对照组、美替拉酮对照组、美替拉酮合用加味逍遥丸对照组、生理盐水应激组、加味逍遥丸应激组、美替拉酮应激组、美替拉酮合用加味逍遥丸应激组。其中对照组小鼠不予以应激刺激,应激组小鼠采用电刺激条件反射箱诱导建立慢性心理应激模型。检测各组小鼠体质量、血清糖皮质激素水平、胸腺指数、胸腺细胞凋亡率、脾脏自然杀伤细胞活性及淋巴细胞转化率,并观察小鼠胸腺组织病理学改变。结果:各应激组与其相对应的非应激对照组比较,其胸腺指数明显下降,自然杀伤细胞活性及淋巴细胞转化率均明显下降;同时,胸腺细胞凋亡率升高,胸腺组织病理损伤加重。美替拉酮及加味逍遥丸应激组与生理盐水应激组比较,其血清糖皮质激素含量明显下降,自然杀伤细胞活性及脂多糖刺激的淋巴细胞转化率明显升高,胸腺组织病理损伤减轻。美替拉酮合用加味逍遥丸应激组与单纯的美替拉酮或加味逍遥丸应激组各项指标比较,均无明显差异。结论:阻断 HPAA 对慢性心理应激小鼠的免疫系统有明显的保护作用。加味逍遥丸对慢性心理应激小鼠的保护作用与美替拉酮阻断 HPAA 的效应基本一致,两者无叠加、协同效应。推测 HPAA 是加味逍遥丸抗应激损伤的作用靶点之一。

[关键词] 加味逍遥丸;下丘脑-垂体-肾上腺皮质轴;慢性心理应激;免疫系统 [中图分类号] R2-03 [文献标识码] A [文章编号] 1672-1977(2006)04-0363-05

# Effects of blockage of hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal cortex axis by metyrapone and Jiawei Xiaoyao Pills on immune system in mice exposed to chronic emotional stress

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ABSTRACT Objective: To explore the effects of Jiawei Xiaoyao Pills (JWXYP) on immune system of mice exposed to chronic emotional stress, and to compare its effects with blockage of hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal cortex axis (HPAA) by metyrapone. Methods: Eighty male mice were randomly divided into eight groups: normal saline-treated group, normal saline-treated stress group, JWXYP-treated group, JWXYP-treated stress group, metyrapone-treated group, metyrapone-treated stress group, metyrapone and JWXYP-treated group and metyrapone and JWXYP-treated stress group. A box of electrical shock was used to induce chronic emotional stress in mice. The metyrapone was applied to blocking the HPAA. The JWXYP, a classi-

cal formula of traditional Chinese medicine, which can alleviate the damages caused by chronic emotional stress, was also used to compare its effects with that of metyrapone. The body weight, thymus index, rate of apoptosis in thymus, serum concentration of glucocorticoid, activity of natural killer cells, lymphocyte transmission rate of mice were all measured and examined after interventions. The pathological changes of thymus tissue were observed. Results: The thymus index, activity of natural killer cells and lymphocyte transmission rate were lower while the rate of apoptosis in thymus as well as the severity degree of pathological damages in thymus tissue were increased in the different drug-treated stress groups as compared with those in the corresponding drug-treated groups without stress. The activity of natural killer cells and the lymphocyte transmission rate induced by lipopolysaccharide were increased while the serum concentration of glucocorticoid and the severity degree of pathological damages in thymus tissue were decreased in both the metyrapone-treated stress group and JWXYP-treated stress group as compared with those in the normal saline-treated stress group. The combined intervention of metyrapone and JWXYP did not show better effects on immune system in mice exposed to chronic emotional stress than single metyrapone or JWXYP interventon. Conclusion: Blockage of HPAA by metyrapone intervention shows a significant protective effect on immune system in mice exposed to chronic emotional stress, and the JWXYP also exerts a similar protective effect against damages induced by chronic emotional stress. The HPAA may be one of the action targets of protective effects of JWXYP .

KEY WORDS Jiawei Xiaoyao Pills; metyrapone; hypothalamic-pituitary-adrenal cortex axis; chronic emotional stress; immune system

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长期以来,有关应激研究的靶点主要集中于下 丘脑-垂体-肾上腺皮质轴(hypothalamic-pituitaryadrenal cortex axis, HPAA)。慢性心理应激时, HPAA 调节紊乱及血清糖皮质激素分泌的增多既 是应激的标志,同时又是下游各种病理生理学改变 的媒介。HPAA与蓝斑去甲肾上腺素系统之间存 在着密切的联系[]。本课题组在前期研究中发现, 行交感神经阻断后的应激小鼠其血清 IgG 水平较 未行交感神经阻断的应激小鼠明显升高[2]。徐志伟 等學 采用束缚制动法建立慢性心理应激动物模型, 发现模型大鼠下丘脑、血浆促肾上腺皮质激素 (adrenocorticotropic hormone, ACTH)水平明显升 高,而调肝治法方药可以明显降低下丘脑、血浆 ACTH 的水平。童瑶等[4]发现,疏肝理肺方可以通 过抑制应激条件下哮喘大鼠下丘脑-垂体-肾上腺皮 质轴功能的亢进,起到防治哮喘的作用。这些研究 均表明,调肝方药对慢性心理应激的调节作用可能 与调控 HPAA 中枢部分相关。本实验研究采用美 替拉酮抑制糖皮质激素的合成以阻断 HPAA 的靶 腺部分,观察具有疏肝、理气、解郁之功的代表方剂 加味逍遥丸对慢性应激损伤的保护作用及其与 HPAA 的关系。

#### 1 材料与方法

#### 1.1 材料

理学系生物心理学实验室自制; Olympus IX70 倒置 荧光显微镜, Image-Pro Plus image analysis software 图像分析系统, 购自日本 Olympus 公司。

1.1.3 主要试剂 (1)美替拉酮:粉剂,1.0 g/瓶,购自美国 Sigma 公司,批准文号 856525,产品批号09129MO;(2)加味逍遥丸(Jiawei Xiaoyao Pills,JWXYP):北京同仁堂科技发展股份有限公司制药厂生产,批准文号 Z11020248,产品批号 4082039;(3)Annexin 细胞凋亡检测试剂盒:购自北京宝赛生物技术有限公司,产品批号 041008。

#### 1.2 方法

1.2.1 慢性心理应激动物模型的建立 电刺激条件反射箱由形状大小完全相同的两个小箱子组成,小箱子之间用一块带孔的透明玻璃板隔开,底部均设置电栅。实验时将小鼠放入两侧小箱子内,两侧先同时通电5s,随后一侧通电,另一侧不通电。不

通电一侧的小鼠在经历最初的 5 s 电击及通过随后的观察(听见通电一侧小鼠发出的尖叫声,闻见气味,看见受电击小鼠恐慌、跳跃的状态),始终处于紧张不安、担心害怕的状态。采用不定时应激,15 min/次,1次/d,持续 6 d,建立慢性心理应激动物模型。

- 1.2.2 动物分组 根据二因素四水平设计将小鼠随机分为8组,每组10只;(1)生理盐水对照组;(2)加味逍遥丸对照组;(3)美替拉酮对照组;(4)美替拉酮合用加味逍遥丸对照组;(5)生理盐水应激组;(6)加味逍遥丸应激组;(7)美替拉酮应激组;(8)美替拉酮合用加味逍遥丸应激组。各对照组小鼠亦被放入电刺激条件反射箱内,15 min/次,1次/d,持续6d,但不作应激处理。
- 123 实验步骤 美替拉酮按 75 mg·kg¹·d¹, 加味逍遥丸按 2 g·kg¹·d¹,均配制成 0.2 ml药物溶液予以灌胃, 1次/d;生理盐水对照组和生理盐水应激组小鼠均予以生理盐水 0.2 ml/次灌胃, 1次/d。各组均于应激前 0.5 h给药,连续 6 d。第 6 天应激结束后,各组小鼠称重;断头取血,采用放射免疫法测定血清糖皮质激素含量;在无菌层流净化台内手术取出小鼠脾脏,置于无菌 1640 培养液中,待测自然杀伤细胞活性及淋巴细胞转化率;取出胸腺,称重后计算胸腺指数(胸腺指数 = 胸腺湿重/体质量×100);取一半胸腺组织进行匀浆以备胸腺细胞凋亡率的检测,将另一半胸腺组织放入 4% 多聚甲醛固定液中、石蜡包埋、切片、HE 染色,在倒置显微镜下行胸腺组织病理学观察。
- 1.2.4 胸腺细胞凋亡率的检测 严格按照 Annexin 细胞凋亡检测试剂盒说明书进行操作,采用 Olympus IX70倒置荧光显微镜和 Image-Pro Plus image analysis software 图像分析系统进行观察及数据分析,每张涂片按 3×3 选取 9 个视野进行观察,并计算细胞凋亡率。
- 1.2.5 脾脏自然杀伤细胞活性及淋巴细胞转化率的检测 分别采用脂多糖(lipopolysaccharide, LPS) 2.5 mg/L 和刀豆素 A (concanavalin A, ConA)0 5 mg/L刺激淋巴细胞,采用同位素³H-胸腺嘧啶脱氧核苷(tritiated thymidine,³H-TdR)掺入法测定淋巴细胞转化率,以掺入量表示淋巴细胞反应强度,检测脉冲数/min(counts per minute, pcm)。
- 1.2.6 统计学方法 所有实验数据均采用 SPSS 12.0 软件进行统计学分析,采用多因素方差分析 (二因素四水平)及 LSD 法进行多重比较,检验水准 = 0.05。

#### 2 结 果

2.1 各组小鼠体质量的比较 多因素方差分析结果显示:(1)因素一:应激组与对照组小鼠体质量比较,差异有统计学意义;(2)因素二:各药物处理组小鼠体质量比较,差异有统计学意义;(3)二因素之间不存在交互影响。LSD 多重比较结果显示:各对照组和美替拉酮合用加味逍遥丸应激组小鼠体质量均大于生理盐水应激组,差异有统计学意义。见图 1。

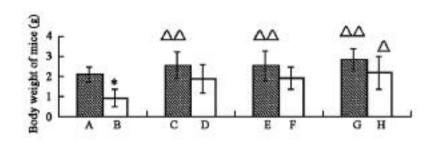


图 1 实验后各组小鼠体质量的变化 Figure 1 Changes of body weights of mice in eight groups after intervention

A: Normal saline-treated group; B: Normal saline-treated stress group; C: JWXYP-treated group; D: JWXYP-treated stress group; E: Metyrapone-treated group; F: Metyrapone-treated stress group; G: Metyrapone and JWXYP-treated group; H: Metyrapone and JWXYP-treated stress group;  $^*P < 0.05$ ,  $^*VS$  normal saline-treated group;  $^*P < 0.05$ ,  $^*VS$  normal saline-treated group;  $^*P < 0.05$ ,  $^*VS$  normal saline-treated stress group.

- 2.2 各组小鼠胸腺指数、胸腺细胞凋亡率的比较多因素方差分析结果显示:(1)因素一:应激组与对照组小鼠胸腺指数、胸腺细胞凋亡率比较,差异有统计学意义;(2)因素二:各药物处理组小鼠胸腺指数、胸腺细胞凋亡率比较,差异有统计学意义;(3)二因素之间不存在交互影响。LSD多重比较结果显示:与各自对应的相同药物处理对照组比较,各应激组小鼠胸腺指数均明显下降而胸腺细胞凋亡率均明显升高,差异有统计学意义;与生理盐水应激组比较,各药物处理对照组小鼠胸腺指数均明显升高而胸腺细胞凋亡率均明显下降,差异有统计学意义。见表1。
- 2.3 各组小鼠血清糖皮质激素含量及脾脏自然杀伤细胞活性的比较 多因素方差分析结果显示: (1)因素一: 应激组与对照组小鼠血清糖皮质激素含量及脾脏自然杀伤细胞活性的比较, 差异有统计学意义; (2)因素二: 各药物处理组小鼠血清糖皮质激素含量及脾脏自然杀伤细胞活性的比较, 差异有统计学意义; (3) 二因素之间不存在交互影响。 LSD 多重比较结果显示: 与各自对应的相同药物处理对照组比较,各应激组小鼠血清糖皮质激素含量均明显升高而

脾脏自然杀伤细胞活性均明显降低,差异有统计学意义;与生理盐水应激组比较,各药物处理对照组小鼠血清糖皮质激素含量均明显降低而脾脏自然杀伤细胞活性均明显升高,差异有统计学意义;与生理盐水对照组比较,加味逍遥丸应激组脾脏自然杀伤细胞活性明显降低,差异有统计学意义。见表 2。

表 1 各组小鼠胸腺指数、胸腺细胞凋亡率的比较 Table 1 Thymus index and rate of apoptosis in thymus of mice in different groups

 $(\overline{x} \pm s, \%)$ 

Group	n	Thymus index	Rate of apoptosis in thy mus
Normal saline-treated	1		
Without stress	10	$0.34 \pm 0.08$	$17.09 \pm 5.18$
Stress	10	$0.27 \pm 0.06$ *	$33.89 \pm 5.54^{*}$
JWXYP-treated			
Without stress	10	$0.35 \pm 0.05$	19 .12 ± 3 .69
Stress	10	$0.29 \pm 0.09$ *	$26.37 \pm 4.56^*$
Metyrapone-treated			
Without stress	10	$0.37 \pm 0.04$	$16.43 \pm 4.31$
Stress	10	$0.32 \pm 0.06$ *	$23.62 \pm 6.84$ *
Metyrapone and JW	XYP-trea	ite d	
Without stress	10	$0.37 \pm 0.08$	17 .42 ± 5 .26
Stress	10	$0.31 \pm 0.07^*$	25 .34 ± 4 .75 *

\* P < 0.05, \* \* P < 0.01, vs the same drug-treated group without stress; P < 0.05, P < 0.01 vs normal saline-treated stress group.

## 表 2 各组小鼠血清糖皮质激素含量及 脾脏自然杀伤细胞活性的比较

Table 2 Serum concentration of glucocorticoid and activitiy of natural killer cells in spleen of mice in different groups

 $(\overline{x} \pm s)$ 

Group	n	Serum concentration of glucocorticoid (µg/L)	Activity of natural killer cells in spleen (%)
Normal saline-treat	ed		
Without stress	10	$25.15 \pm 3.41$	33 $.51 \pm 10$ 23
Stress	10	55 .20 ± 4 .27 * *	20 .28 ± 11 27 * *
JWXYP-treated			
Without stress	10	$23.25 \pm 4.23$	36 .37 ± 11 .02
Stress	10	$33.53 \pm 5.15^*$	22 .33 ± 10 .09 * *
Metyrapone-treated			
Without stress	10	21 .24 ± 2 26	$35.64 \pm 9.12$
Stress	10	30 .78 $\pm$ 7 .14 *	$27.19 \pm 12.09$ *
Metyrapone and JW	XY	P-treated	
Without stress	10	$20.61 \pm 2.94$	37 .21 ± 13 .74
Stress	10	25 .86 ± 2 .41 *	28 .16 ± 12 .20*

<sup>\*</sup> P<0.05, \* \* P<0.01, vs the same drug-treated group without stress; P<0.05, P<0.01 vs normal saline-treated stress group; P<0.05, vs normal saline-treated group.

2.4 各组小鼠脾脏淋巴细胞转化率的比较 多因素方差分析结果显示: (1)因素一: 应激组与对照组小鼠脾脏淋巴细胞转化率的比较,差异有统计学意义; (2)因素二: 各药物处理组小鼠脾脏淋巴细胞转化率的比较,差异有统计学意义; (3)二因素之间不存在交互影响。 LSD 多重比较结果显示: 与各自对应的相同药物处理对照组比较,各自对应的加强脾脏淋巴细胞转化率均明显下降,差异有统计学意义; 与生理盐水应激组比较,各药物处理对照组及应激组 LPS 刺激的小鼠脾脏淋巴细胞转化率均明显升高,差异有统计学意义。见表 3。

## 表 3 各组小鼠脾脏淋巴细胞<sup>3</sup> H-TdR 掺入值的比较(淋巴细胞转化率)

Table 3 Amounts of <sup>3</sup>H-TdR incorporated in lymphocytes of mice in different groups (lymphocyte transformation rate)

 $(\overline{x} \pm s, cpm)$ 

Group	n	Amount of <sup>3</sup> H-TdR incorporated in lymphocytes		
		LPS-induced	C on A-induced	
Normal saline-trea	ted			
Without stress	10	$13759 \pm 419$	$9421 \pm 569$	
Stress	10	7 154 ± 541 * *	5 337 ± 219 *	
JWXYP-treated				
Without stress	10	$13\ 554 \pm 520$	$9\ 236 \pm 641$	
Stress	10	9 881 ± 257*	5 635 ± 409 *	
Metyrapone-treated	1			
Without stress	10	15 880 $\pm$ 849	$9.049 \pm 831$	
Stress	10	$10\ 103 \pm 576^*$	6 915 ± 454 *	
Metyrapone and JV	VXYP-	treated		
Without stress	10	15 384 ± 999	$9.054 \pm 270$	
Stress	10	$10\ 323 \pm 965^*$	$6313 \pm 702$ *	

\* P<0 .05, \* \* P<0 .01, vs the same drug-treated group without stress; P<0 .05, P<0 .01 vs normal saline-treated stress group .

2.5 各组小鼠胸腺组织病理学检查结果 生理盐水应激组小鼠胸腺组织形态发生轻度改变,皮、髓质萎缩,以皮质萎缩更明显,皮、髓质内胸腺细胞分布较稀疏。加味逍遥丸应激组、美替拉酮应激组、美替拉酮合用加味逍遥丸应激组小鼠胸腺组织形态改变较轻,胸腺体积较大,皮、髓质内胸腺细胞较多、密集,髓质内上皮性网状细胞增多,但与对照组比较仍有明显差异。见图 2。

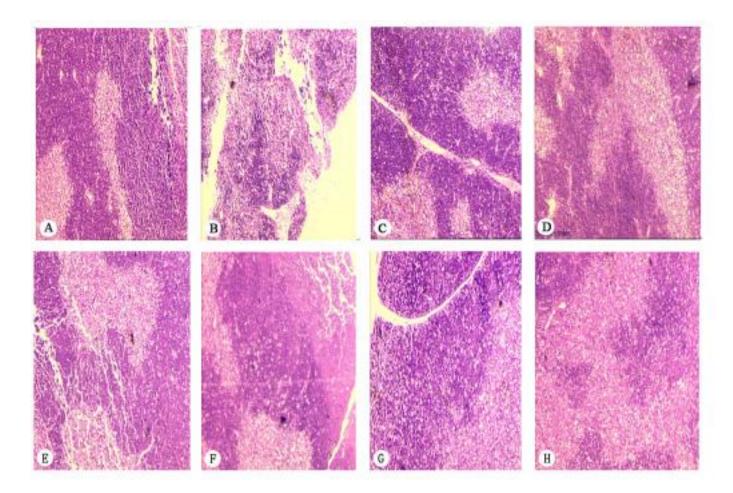


图 2 各组小鼠胸腺组织病理学观察(HE 染色, ×40)

Figure 2 Histopathological changes of thymus tissue of mice in different groups (HE staining, × 40)

A: Normal saline-treated group;
B: Normal saline-treated stress
group; C: JWXYP-treated
group; D: JWXYP-treated stress
group; E: Metyrapone-treated
group; F: Metyrapone-treated
stress group; G: Metyrapone and
JWXYP-treated group; H:
Metyrapone and JWXYP-treated
stress group.

#### 3 讨论

在慢性心理应激过程中, HPAA 的功能与应激 对机体的影响密切相关。Tan 等[5] 采用长时间束缚 制动法建立慢性心理应激动物模型,发现应激过程 中血浆 ACTH、糖皮质激素水平迅速升高,其中 ACTH 为暂时性升高,而糖皮质激素则在整个应激 过程中始终处于高水平状态。有研究发现,应激时 会出现胸腺指数下降,血白细胞、单核细胞、T淋巴 细胞和 B 淋巴细胞数目在应激结束后会缓慢回复 正常或部分回复,这些均与 HPAA 功能失调有 关[6,7]。本实验采用电刺激条件反射箱建立慢性心 理应激动物模型,该模型比较符合人类的心理应激 状态。实验结果显示,慢性心理应激时 HPAA 调节 紊乱,血清糖皮质激素分泌增加,同时胸腺指数下 降、胸腺细胞凋亡率升高、自然杀伤细胞活性及淋巴 细胞转化率下降,胸腺组织病理学发生轻度改变;采 用美替拉酮阻断 HPAA后,慢性心理应激小鼠胸腺 指数升高、胸腺细胞凋亡率下降、自然杀伤细胞活性 及淋巴细胞转化率均升高。

加味逍遥丸是中医疏肝理气法治疗情志疾病的代表方剂,临床疗效确切,但对其作用机制的研究尚鲜见报道。本实验证实,加味逍遥丸可以增加慢性心理应激小鼠的体质量,改善应激小鼠的心理状态(如理毛、修饰、睡眠时间增多,进食量增加);可以降低应激性血清糖皮质激素水平的升高,抑制胸腺细胞凋亡,防止胸腺萎缩;改善应激动物的细胞免疫功能(增强自然杀伤细胞的活性及淋巴细胞的活化)。加味逍遥丸对慢性心理应激小鼠的保护作用与美替

拉酮阻断 HPAA 的效应基本一致,且二者之间没有协同、叠加效应,由此推测加味逍遥丸发挥抗慢性心理应激损伤的作用途径与阻断 HPAA 有关。

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