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医学放射物理

基于氢质子磁共振波谱技术研究L波段微波辐射对大鼠学习和记忆的影响

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【摘要】目的:基于氢质子磁共振波谱(¹H-MRS)技术,分析L波段微波辐射对大鼠学习和记忆功能的影响。**方法:**SPF级雄性Wistar大鼠26只,随机分为假辐射组(Sham组)、L波段30 mW/cm²微波辐射组(L30组)。将L30组大鼠放置于有机玻璃照射盒中,使用L波段微波辐射源从背侧照射10 min;Sham组大鼠除未行微波辐射外其他处理与照射组相同。采用Morris水迷宫方法于辐射后1 d和7 d对各组大鼠的学习和记忆功能进行检测。使用¹H-MRS于辐射后1 d和7 d检测鼠脑中的N-乙酰天门冬氨酸(N-acetylaspartate, NAA)、胆碱(Choline, Cho)、肌酸(Creatine, Cr)水平。**结果:**微波辐射后1 d和7 d,与Sham组相比,L30组平均逃避潜伏期有延长趋势,但无统计学意义($P>0.05$)。¹H-MRS检测结果显示辐射后1 d,与Sham组比较,L30组¹H-MRS波谱NAA/Cr值显著降低($P<0.05$),Cho/Cr值无显著差异($P>0.05$);辐射后7 d,与Sham组比较,L30组大鼠脑部NAA/Cr和Cho/Cr值均无显著差异($P>0.05$)。**结论:**30 mW/cm² L波段微波辐射后1 d大鼠脑内NAA/Cr显著降低,而学习和记忆行为学指标无显著改变,提示利用¹H-MRS技术能够在被试未出现显著行为学改变时检测出微波辐射对学习和记忆相关神经元的影响。

【关键词】大鼠;微波辐射;氢质子磁共振波谱;神经元;学习记忆

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¹H-proton magnetic resonance spectroscopy for studying effects of L-band microwave radiation on learning and memory functions of rats

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Abstract: Objective To investigate the effects of L-band microwave radiation on the learning and memory functions of rats based on ¹H-proton magnetic resonance spectroscopy (¹H-MRS). Methods Twenty-six SPF male Wistar rats were randomly divided into Sham group and 30 mW/cm² L-band microwave radiation group (L30 group). The rats in L30 group were restrained in plastic cages and exposure to 30 mW/cm² L-band microwave radiation for 10 min. The incident direction of the microwave was from dorsal to ventral. The rats in Sham group were also restrained in the same cages for 10 min, without any microwave radiation. Both learning and memory functions of rats were evaluated at 1 d and 7 d after the radiation using Morris water maze. The level of N-acetylaspartate (NAA), choline (Cho) and creatine (Cr) in the rats' brain were measured with ¹H-MRS. Results Compared with that of Sham group, the average escaping latency of L30 group at 1 d and 7 d after microwave radiation was prolonged, but there was no statistical significance between two groups ($P>0.05$). The results of ¹H-MRS examination demonstrated that at 1 d after the radiation, the NAA/Cr of L30 group was significantly lower than that of Sham group ($P<0.05$), while the Cho/Cr was similar in two groups, without significant differences ($P>0.05$); and that at 7 d after the radiation, there was no significant difference in

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both of NAA/Cr and Cho/Cr between L30 group and Sham group ($P>0.05$). Conclusion 30 mW/cm² L-band microwave radiation can lead to a significant decrease of intracerebral NAA/Cr in rat at 1 d after microwave exposure, without resulting in obvious changes in the behavioral indexes of learning and memory, which suggests that ¹H-MRS can be used for evaluating the microwave radiation induced damage to neurons related to learning and memory before any significant changes of behavioral measurements can be observed.

Keywords: rat; microwave radiation; ¹H-proton magnetic resonance spectroscopy; neuron; learning and memory

前言

随着微波在通讯、科研、医疗、工农业生产等领域日益广泛的应用,人们暴露于微波辐射的时间也在不断增加。而微波辐射对人体产生的影响也逐渐引起了研究者的关注^[1-4]。既往研究表明,一定剂量的微波辐射能够对学习和记忆功能造成影响^[5-9]。

氢质子磁共振波谱(¹H-proton Magnetic Resonance Spectroscopy, ¹H-MRS)是一种能够无创、在体定量化测量组织内代谢物浓度的技术,可检测的代谢物主要包括N-乙酰天门冬氨酸(N-acetylaspartate, NAA)、胆碱复合物(Choline, Cho)、肌酸(Creatine, Cr)等^[10-13]。尽管¹H-MRS已被广泛应用于认知功能相关研究中^[14-17],但基于¹H-MRS的微波辐射对认知功能影响的研究还较为初步^[18-19],特别是基于¹H-MRS的针对L波段(1.5 GHz)微波辐射对大鼠学习和记忆影响的研究,尚未见报道。

本研究将利用¹H-MRS技术以及行为学实验方法探索L波段微波辐射对大鼠学习和记忆能力的影响,为应用¹H-MRS技术评估微波辐射致学习和记忆功能损伤奠定基础。

1 材料与方法

1.1 实验动物分组

SPF级雄性Wistar大鼠26只,体质量(224.7±1.2)g,由斯贝福(北京)生物技术有限公司提供。大鼠自由进食能水,饲养环境温度约22℃。按照体质量随机分为假辐射组(Sham组)和30 mW/cm²L波段微波辐射组(L30组)。每组包括参加磁共振实验的3只大鼠以及进行Morris水迷宫实验的10只大鼠。

1.2 微波辐射方法

采用L波段微波源,中心频率为1.5 GHz,并采用平均功率密度30 mW/cm²进行辐射。在整个微波辐射过程中,大鼠放置于微波辐射专用塑料盒中,处于辐射远场,微波辐射由大鼠背侧入射。为保证每只大鼠接收均匀照射,大鼠照射盒随照射台以微波辐射匀场中心轴匀速旋转。

1.3 学习和记忆功能行为学检测

每组选取10只大鼠,采用Morris水迷宫对大鼠学习和记忆能力进行检测。本研究所使用的Morris水迷宫分析系统(硕林苑科技有限公司,北京,中国)拥有运动轨迹自动采集系统和封闭式不锈钢圆形水槽。水槽直径160 cm,深45 cm,实验中水温控制在约23℃。将水槽内部空间分为4个象限,在第3象限放置一个直径为12 cm的圆形平台,该平台顶部低于水面1~2 cm。在水槽正上方中央,悬挂轨迹自动采集系统的摄像头。各组大鼠在微波辐射前连续进行Morris水迷宫训练3 d(每天1次),训练时将每只大鼠按照顺序分次放入4个象限中,首个60 s内无论大鼠是否找到位于第3象限的圆形平台,都将其放置于该平台上15 s进行学习。在辐射后1 d和7 d,分别对各组大鼠进行定位航行实验。大鼠从入水到找到圆形平台时间为逃避潜伏期,若逃避潜伏期超过60 s则计为60 s。分别记录大鼠由4个象限出发的逃避潜伏期取平均值,得到各组大鼠的平均逃避潜伏期(Average Escape Latency, AEL)。

1.4 大鼠脑部¹H-MRS检测

每组选取3只大鼠,分别于辐射后1 d和7 d在3T MRI扫描仪(Discovery 750 MR, GE Healthcare, USA)上使用四通道小动物专用线圈对大鼠脑部进行单体素¹H-MRS检测,使用PROBE-SV序列,重复时间1 500 ms,回波时间288 ms。使用jMRUI 5.2软件处理¹H-MRS原始数据,获得NAA/Cr及Cho/Cr的值。大鼠麻醉采用腹腔注射1%戊巴比妥钠(0.5 mL/100 g)的方式完成。

1.5 统计学分析

本研究数据均以均值±标准差表示,使用SPSS 19.0软件对所获得的AEL、NAA/Cr和Cho/Cr数据进行方差分析。 $P<0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。

2 结果

2.1 L波段微波辐射对大鼠学习和记忆功能的影响

在辐射后1 d和7 d这两个时间点上,L30组大鼠的AEL较之于同一时间点的Sham组大鼠均出现了延长趋势,但无统计学差异($P>0.05$)。详见表1。

表1 30 mW/cm² L波段微波辐射后大鼠水迷宫实验AEL变化(s)
Tab.1 Average escape latency of rats after 30 mW/cm² L-band microwave radiation (s)

组别	1 d	7 d
Sham组	25.78±7.24	24.86±4.11
L30组	30.53±7.55	27.16±9.13

2.2 L波段微波辐射对大鼠脑内代谢物浓度的影响

与Sham组比较,辐射后1 d,L30组大鼠的NAA/Cr值显著降低($P<0.01$),而Cho/Cr值未见显著改变($P>0.05$);辐射后7d,L30组大鼠NAA/Cr值和Cho/Cr值与Sham组大鼠亦未见显著差异($P>0.05$)。详见表2。

表2 30 mW/cm² L波段微波辐射后大鼠脑内NAA/Cr值和Cho/Cr值变化
Tab.2 Intracerebral NAA/Cr and Cho/Cr in rats after 30 mW/cm² L-band microwave radiation

组别	1 d		7 d	
	NAA/Cr	Cho/Cr	NAA/Cr	Cho/Cr
Sham组	3.30±0.12	1.43±0.33	3.03±0.84	1.25±0.14
L30组	2.86±0.08**	1.31±0.31	3.85±0.60	1.71±0.33

**表示与Sham组相比, $P<0.01$

3 讨论

既往研究表明,一定剂量微波辐射可导致大鼠学习和记忆能力下降。Lu等^[4]发现频率为2.45 GHz的微波辐射后[平均功率密度1 mW/cm²,脑部比吸收率(Specific Absorption Rate, SAR)=0.7 W/kg]30 d,大鼠学习和记忆功能出现障碍;Wang等^[5]发现频率为2.45 GHz的微波辐射后(平均功率密度2 mW/cm²,SAR=1.2 W/kg)1 h,大鼠空间“参照”记忆能力降低。但也有部分研究给出了阴性的结果,如Dubreuil等^[20]发现微波辐射后(频率900 MHz, SAR=3.5 W/kg)45 min,对小鼠的空间学习记忆能力没有显著影响。本研究发现,在L波段微波辐射后大鼠AEL有延长趋势,但是并不显著。微波辐射对学习和记忆功能影响的差异可能与所使用的微波频率及辐射剂量大小有关。

¹H-MRS是利用核磁共振现象进行代谢物浓度定量化测量的技术。NAA是神经元的标志物,由神经元的线粒体产生,共振峰位于2.02 ppm。NAA代表脑的发育成熟程度、神经元密度、完整性以及健康

状况,与轴突、树突及突触联系的功能有关。Dogan等^[18]发现3G手机(频率为900~1 800 MHz)所产生的电磁辐射对大鼠脑内的NAA/Cr、Cho/Cr浓度无明显的改变,提示短期使用3G手机并未对大鼠脑组织产生影响。崔亮等^[19]发现经2.856 GHz微波辐射后(平均功率密度30 mW/cm²)3、7和14 d,左侧海马内NAA/Cr值显著升高,而辐射后大鼠学习和记忆能力显著下降。本研究发现辐射后1 d,与Sham组相比,L30组大鼠脑内NAA/Cr值显著降低,提示平均功率密度为30 mW/cm²的L波段微波辐射可引起大鼠脑神经元结构或功能的损伤。与既往研究采用的其他频率及剂量的微波辐射相比,30 mW/cm² L波段微波辐射对大鼠脑内NAA/Cr造成的影响具有其特异性,其机制有待进一步研究。

此外,比较微波辐射后大鼠学习和记忆行为学指标的改变以及脑内NAA/Cr的改变可以看出,在行为学指标未发生显著改变时,脑内NAA/Cr值已有显著的降低。上述结果提示,较之于行为学研究方法,¹H-MRS技术是一种更为敏感的检测手段,可用于发现和评估微波辐射对学习和记忆相关神经元组织结构和功能造成的早期影响。

4 结论

采用平均功率密度为30 mW/cm²的L波段微波辐射后1 d,大鼠脑内NAA/Cr显著降低,但是学习和记忆行为学指标均没有发现显著改变。较之于行为学研究方法,利用¹H-MRS技术能够在被试未出现显著行为学改变时检测出微波辐射对学习和记忆相关神经元的影响。

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