

·综述·

⁶⁸Ga-FAPI PET/CT 在恶性肿瘤中的临床应用

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【摘要】 成纤维细胞活化蛋白(FAP)作为肿瘤相关成纤维细胞(CAFs)的分子标志物之一,在激活的CAF中高度特异性表达。FAP具有促进肿瘤侵袭、转移和免疫逃逸的作用,可作为恶性肿瘤诊疗的重要靶点。镓-68标记的FAP抑制剂(⁶⁸Ga-FAPI)是基于FAP合成的小分子探针,经PET/CT显像可实现FAP在体内的可视化。目前,⁶⁸Ga-FAPI PET/CT已成功应用于神经胶质瘤、食管癌、肝癌和胰腺导管腺癌等恶性肿瘤的诊断和分期。笔者综述了⁶⁸Ga-FAPI PET/CT在恶性肿瘤中的临床应用情况。

【关键词】 正电子发射断层显像术; 体层摄影术, X线计算机; 放射性核素显像; 成纤维细胞活化蛋白抑制剂

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Clinical application of ⁶⁸Ga-FAPI PET/CT in malignant tumors

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【Abstract】 Fibroblast activation protein (FAP), as one of the molecular markers of cancer-associated fibroblasts (CAFs), is highly specifically expressed in activated CAFs. FAP can be used as a theranostic target for malignant tumors since it can promote tumor invasion, metastasis and immune escape. Gallium-68-labeled FAP inhibitor (⁶⁸Ga-FAPI) is a small molecular probe synthesized based on FAP, which can be visualized *in vivo* by PET/CT imaging. At present, ⁶⁸Ga-FAPI PET/CT has been successfully used in the diagnosis and staging of glioma, esophageal cancer, hepatocellular carcinoma, pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma and other malignant tumors. This paper reviews the clinical application of ⁶⁸Ga-FAPI PET/CT in malignant tumors.

【Key words】 Positron-emission tomography; Tomography, X-ray computed; Radionuclide imaging; Fibroblast activation protein inhibitor

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肿瘤的发生和发展与其微环境密切相关。肿瘤微环境是一个包含肿瘤细胞、成纤维细胞、免疫细胞、血管内皮细胞和细胞外基质等复杂成分的特定环境,其中,肿瘤相关成纤维细胞(cancer-associated fibroblasts, CAFs)是肿瘤微环境中最重要的成分之一^[1],具有分泌多种细胞因子及抑制正常免疫应答的功能。成纤维细胞活化蛋白(fibroblast activation protein, FAP)是CAF表面的抗原分子,最初被称为F19抗原,是一种跨膜糖蛋白,属于丝氨酸蛋白酶类,由分子量为95 kDa的 α 亚单位和105 kDa

的 β 亚单位组成二聚体^[2]。FAP具有分解明胶和I型胶原的胶原酶活性以及类似二肽基肽酶的活性,能够降解和重建细胞外基质并促进肿瘤新生血管的形成,可参与基质重构、血管生成、化疗耐药以及免疫抑制等多种促进肿瘤活性的途径。同时,由于FAP在正常组织中几乎不表达,故其成为恶性肿瘤诊疗的新型靶点^[3-5]。

PET是一种通过放射性核素标记的探针在体内示踪分子和细胞动态变化的分子影像学技术,与CT联用可实现对疾病的精准诊断。FAP抑制剂

(FAP inhibitor, FAPI)是基于喹啉结构合成的靶向FAP的小分子化合物,经放射性核素标记后可作为恶性肿瘤的PET/CT新型显像剂^[6-7],主要包括¹²⁵I-FAPI-01、¹⁷⁷Lu-FAPI-02、⁹⁰Y-FAPI-04、⁶⁸Ga-FAPI-02、⁶⁸Ga-FAPI-04和⁶⁸Ga-FAPI-46等。其中,关于⁶⁸Ga-FAPI显像剂的研究最多,因其具有制备简便、患者无需进行静息和禁食准备及T/NT高等优势^[8],现已应用于多种恶性肿瘤的诊断,尤其在神经胶质瘤、食管癌、肝细胞癌和胰腺导管腺癌(pancreatic ductal adenocarcinoma, PDAC)中已被证实具有良好的应用前景^[9](表1)。我们重点综述了⁶⁸Ga-FAPI PET/CT在上述恶性肿瘤中的临床价值。

1 ⁶⁸Ga-FAPI PET/CT 在神经胶质瘤中的应用

神经胶质瘤是最常见的原发性中枢神经系统肿瘤,简称为胶质瘤。WHO根据恶性程度将其分为I~IV级:I级为良性,II级为交界性肿瘤,III~IV级为恶性^[22]。头颅MRI具有评估胶质瘤解剖学特征的优势,故成为传统影像学对胶质瘤分级的主要方法,但相比于MRI,PET/CT在制定活体组织病理学检查方案以及评估肿瘤进展与放射性坏死等方面能提供更多精确的信息^[23]。由于FAP的 α 亚单位在胶质瘤细胞表面高度表达,能够促进胶质瘤细胞的增殖和迁移^[24],故可利用FAPI显像剂在体内示踪胶质瘤微环境的动态变化。临床研究结果表明,在行⁶⁸Ga-FAPI-02/04 PET/CT的胶质瘤患者中,高级别胶质瘤(不包括弥漫性星形细胞瘤)对显像剂的摄取较高($SUV_{max}=2.8\pm 0.6$),而低级别胶质瘤仅为轻度摄取($SUV_{max}=0.35\pm 0.10$),这表明⁶⁸Ga-FAPI-02/04 PET/CT有无创性鉴别低级别与高级别胶质瘤的潜力^[10]。此外,因胶质瘤在⁶⁸Ga-FAPI PET/CT图像中的T/NT很高(最高可达到16.9)^[11],故其还有助于勾画胶质瘤的靶区。通过设定病灶与正常组织的SUV比值为肿瘤靶区的阈值,可在⁶⁸Ga-FAPI-02/04 PET/CT图像中勾画肿瘤靶区。相比于MRI,在⁶⁸Ga-FAPI PET/CT图像中勾画的肿瘤靶区更为精准,且能够最大程度地减少勾画到周围正常组织的几率($P=0.022$)^[12]。

2 ⁶⁸Ga-FAPI PET/CT 在食管癌中的应用

食管癌是发生于食管及胃-食管连接处的消化道恶性肿瘤,患者的5年生存率仅为15%~25%^[25]。美

国癌症联合委员会制定的肿瘤分期标准^[26]以TNM分期为基础,按照恶性肿瘤病灶的范围、区域淋巴结的受累情况及有无远处转移将食管癌分为I~IV期,这是目前临床上指导食管癌治疗及评估预后最常用的分期标准。PET/CT是获取食管癌患者TNM分期信息的影像学检查方法之一,然而,¹⁸F-FDG PET/CT对食管癌淋巴结转移的诊断灵敏度并不高(约为66%)^[27]。⁶⁸Ga-FAPI是一种新型显像剂,可在给药后10 min~1 h进行图像采集。与¹⁸F-FDG相比,⁶⁸Ga-FAPI的T/NT更高,使得图像采集更为便捷,且更有利于视觉定性和半定量分析,故其被认为更易检出转移性淋巴结^[8]。为具体了解其检出食管癌转移性淋巴结的能力,Ristau等^[13]对7例食管癌患者行⁶⁸Ga-FAPI-04/46 PET/CT检查,结果表明,转移性淋巴结对显像剂的摄取较高($SUV_{max}=6.0\sim 13.4$),而正常组织器官的摄取较低(如纵隔血池的 $SUV_{max}=1.6$),T/NT最高可达到11,这使得转移性淋巴结在视觉分析中更易被发现。与¹⁸F-FDG PET/CT相比,⁶⁸Ga-FAPI-04 PET/CT对转移性淋巴结的诊断灵敏度和准确率均更高(86.4% vs. 45.5%; 74.4% vs. 59.0%),更有利于明确区域淋巴结的受累情况^[11],从而有助于食管癌患者的精准分期和后期的个体化治疗。

3 ⁶⁸Ga-FAPI PET/CT 在肝细胞癌中的应用

肝细胞癌是原发性肝癌中最常见的类型(占90%以上),是全球第四大癌症相关的病死原因^[28],早期诊断可有效降低其病死率^[29]。¹⁸F-FDG是目前用于PET/CT的常规显像剂,可在早期发现肿瘤的原发灶及转移灶^[30],然而,肝细胞癌中葡萄糖转运体1和葡萄糖-6-磷酸酶的表达水平较低,¹⁸F-FDG PET/CT对其的诊断灵敏度不高^[31],因此,探索对肝细胞癌具有高诊断灵敏度的其他显像剂成为该领域的研究热点^[32-33]。CAFs被认为与肝细胞癌的发生密切相关^[34],而FAP是CAFs表面的抗原分子。临床研究结果表明,⁶⁸Ga-FAPI PET/CT可有效诊断肝细胞癌^[14]。为探究⁶⁸Ga-FAPI PET/CT的诊断灵敏度,Shi等^[15]对14例肝细胞癌患者行⁶⁸Ga-FAPI-04 PET/CT和¹⁸F-FDG PET/CT检查,通过对图像进行对比分析发现,⁶⁸Ga-FAPI PET/CT诊断肝细胞癌的灵敏度明显高于¹⁸F-FDG PET/CT(100% vs. 55.0%)。在Guo等^[16]的一项类似的研究中,⁶⁸Ga-FAPI-04

表 1 ⁶⁸Ga-FAPI PET/CT 在恶性肿瘤中的临床应用
Table 1 Summary table of the clinical application of ⁶⁸Ga-FAPI PET/CT in malignant tumors

| 不同肿瘤类型的显像剂 | 研究者 | 样本量 | 主要发现 |
|-----------------------------|---------------------------|-----|--|
| 神经胶质瘤 | | | |
| ⁶⁸ Ga-FAPI-02/04 | Röhrich等 ^[10] | 18 | 高级别胶质瘤高摄取(SUV _{max} =2.8±0.6), 低级别胶质瘤轻度摄取(SUV _{max} =0.35±0.10), 具有无创性鉴别低级别与高级别胶质瘤的潜力。 |
| ⁶⁸ Ga-FAPI-04 | Chen等 ^[11] | 4 | T/NT高(最高可达16.9)。 |
| ⁶⁸ Ga-FAPI-04 | Windisch等 ^[12] | 13 | 与 MRI 相比, 在 ⁶⁸ Ga FAPI PET/CT 图像中勾画的肿瘤靶区更为精准, 且能够最大程度地减少勾画到周围正常组织的概率(P=0.022)。 |
| 食管癌 | | | |
| ⁶⁸ Ga-FAPI-04/46 | Ristau等 ^[13] | 7 | T/NT高(最高可达11), 转移性淋巴结在视觉分析中更易被发现。 |
| ⁶⁸ Ga-FAPI-04 | Chen等 ^[11] | 4 | 对转移性淋巴结的诊断灵敏度和准确率均高于 ¹⁸ F-FDG PET/CT(86.4% vs. 45.5%; 74.4% vs. 59.0%)。 |
| 肝细胞癌 | | | |
| ⁶⁸ Ga-FAPI-04 | Shi等 ^[14] | 17 | 诊断灵敏度高, 特别是FAP表达水平高的低分化型肝细胞癌。 |
| ⁶⁸ Ga-FAPI-04 | Shi等 ^[15] | 14 | 诊断灵敏度明显高于 ¹⁸ F-FDG PET/CT(100% vs.55%)。 |
| ⁶⁸ Ga-FAPI-04 | Guo等 ^[16] | 16 | 诊断灵敏度高于 ¹⁸ F-FDG PET/CT(94% vs.69%)。 |
| ⁶⁸ Ga-FAPI-04 | Geist等 ^[17] | 8 | 基于 ⁶⁸ Ga-FAPI-04 PET/CT构建的动力学模型具有无创性鉴别肝细胞癌和非肝细胞癌的潜力。 |
| PDAC | | | |
| ⁶⁸ Ga-FAPI-04/46 | Röhrich等 ^[18] | 19 | 可重新评估病灶的受累情况, 调整PDAC的肿瘤分期。 |
| 非小细胞肺癌 | | | |
| ⁶⁸ Ga-FAPI-74 | Giesel等 ^[19] | 10 | 有助于勾画放疗靶区。 |
| 头颈部恶性肿瘤 | | | |
| ⁶⁸ Ga-FAPI | Syed等 ^[20] | 14 | 有助于勾画放疗靶区。 |
| 鼻咽癌 | | | |
| ⁶⁸ Ga-FAPI-04 | Chen等 ^[11] | 6 | 评估转移性淋巴结的受累情况, 进行更为准确的肿瘤分期。 |
| 卵巢癌 | | | |
| ⁶⁸ Ga-FAPI-04 | Chen等 ^[11] | 4 | 评估转移性淋巴结的受累情况, 进行更为准确的肿瘤分期。 |
| 软组织肉瘤 | | | |
| ⁶⁸ Ga-FAPI-04 | Chen等 ^[11] | 3 | 评估转移性淋巴结的受累情况, 进行更为准确的肿瘤分期。 |
| 神经内分泌肿瘤 | | | |
| ⁶⁸ Ga-FAPI-04 | Chen等 ^[11] | 3 | 评估转移性淋巴结的受累情况, 进行更为准确的肿瘤分期。 |
| 宫颈癌 | | | |
| ⁶⁸ Ga-FAPI-04 | Chen等 ^[11] | 3 | 评估转移性淋巴结的受累情况, 进行更为准确的肿瘤分期。 |
| 胃癌 | | | |
| ⁶⁸ Ga-FAPI | Pang等 ^[21] | 20 | 更加灵敏地检测出原发灶和转移灶。 |
| 十二指肠癌 | | | |
| ⁶⁸ Ga-FAPI | Pang等 ^[21] | 2 | 更加灵敏地检测出原发灶和转移灶。 |
| 结直肠癌 | | | |
| ⁶⁸ Ga-FAPI | Pang等 ^[21] | 8 | 更加灵敏地检测出原发灶和转移灶。 |

注: FAPI 为成纤维细胞激活蛋白抑制剂; PET 为正电子发射断层显像术; CT 为计算机体层摄影术; PDAC 为胰腺导管腺癌; SUV_{max} 为最大标准化摄取值; T/NT 为靶/非靶比值; MRI 为磁共振成像; FDG 为氟脱氧葡萄糖; FAP 为成纤维细胞激活蛋白

PET/CT 对肝细胞癌的诊断灵敏度可达到 94%, 而 ¹⁸F-FDG PET/CT 仅为 69%。上述研究结果均表明, 相比于¹⁸F-FDG PET/CT, ⁶⁸Ga-FAPI PET/CT 对肝细胞癌的诊断更具优势。此外, 由于肝细胞癌和非肝

细胞癌病灶对 FAPI 的代谢速率不同, 故可以通过 ⁶⁸Ga-FAPI-04 PET/CT 构建动力学模型, 该模型中的动力学参数在肝细胞癌和非肝细胞癌病灶中存在显著差异(P<0.01)^[17], 由此可见, 基于⁶⁸Ga-FAPI-

04 PET/CT 构建的动力学模型具有无创性鉴别肝细胞癌的潜力,这可在后续的大样本量研究中进一步验证。

4 ^{68}Ga -FAPI PET/CT 在 PDAC 中的应用

PDAC 是最具侵袭性的恶性肿瘤之一,患者的5年生存率 $<10\%$ ^[35]。精准的显像对 PDAC 患者的诊断、分期、疗效监测和预后评估至关重要。PDAC 的病理学特征之一是肿瘤组织中存在大量的间质细胞,包括表达 FAP 的 CAFs^[36], ^{68}Ga -FAPI PET/CT 可用于 PDAC 的特异性显像。Röhrich 等^[18]对 19 例 PDAC 患者行 ^{68}Ga -FAPI-04/46 PET/CT 和增强 CT 扫描,结果表明,47.4%(9/19)的患者存在未被增强 CT 检出的转移灶,致使其 TNM 分期发生改变,进而影响后续治疗方案的实施;此外,他们还发现胰腺炎也摄取 ^{68}Ga -FAPI,这为鉴别肿瘤与炎症增加了一定难度。有研究表明,对于经超声内镜引导下的活体组织病理学检查确诊为 PDAC 合并肿瘤性胰腺炎的患者,增强 CT 和 ^{18}F -FDG PET/CT 图像均提示胰腺钩突处存在恶性病变,然而,其在 ^{68}Ga -FAPI PET/CT 图像中表现为胰腺弥漫性高摄取,难以鉴别 PDAC 与胰腺炎性病变^[37]。以上研究结果表明, ^{68}Ga -FAPI PET/CT 可以用于 PDAC 的诊断,但对合并炎症的病灶的诊断灵敏度较低。

5 ^{68}Ga -FAPI PET/CT 在其他肿瘤中的应用

除上述肿瘤外, ^{68}Ga -FAPI PET/CT 还可用于指导非小细胞肺癌及头颈部恶性肿瘤放疗靶区的勾画^[19-20];评估鼻咽癌、卵巢癌、软组织肉瘤、神经内分泌肿瘤和宫颈癌转移性淋巴结的受累情况,进行更为准确的肿瘤分期^[11];更灵敏地检出胃癌、十二指肠癌和结直肠癌的原发灶及转移灶^[21]。此外, ^{68}Ga -FAPI PET/CT 在乳腺癌^[38]、DTC^[39]、胆管细胞癌^[40]、胃弥漫大 B 细胞淋巴瘤^[41]、胃印戒细胞癌^[42-43]、前列腺癌^[44]、肾嫌色细胞癌^[45]和孤立性纤维瘤^[46]等恶性肿瘤的诊断中也具有一定的临床价值。

6 小结与展望

^{68}Ga -FAPI PET/CT 是一种可视化肿瘤微环境中 FAP 的新型分子影像学方法,在肿瘤无创评估中展现出了巨大的应用前景。在神经胶质瘤、食管

癌、肝癌和 PDAC 等恶性肿瘤的临床诊疗中, ^{68}Ga -FAPI PET/CT 可以提供早期诊断、精准分期和治疗指导等重要的分子信息和影像学依据。但是, ^{68}Ga -FAPI PET/CT 的临床研究仍处于早期阶段,多为小样本量研究,也缺乏长期的随访数据。对一些当前研究反映的问题(如肿瘤合并炎症病灶的检测与鉴别以及基于 ^{68}Ga -FAPI PET/CT 的患者预后评估等)都需要后续的研究进一步明确。随着今后大样本量、多中心、前瞻性和随机性研究的开展,不同类型的肿瘤在 ^{68}Ga -FAPI PET/CT 中的影像学表现将不断被阐明,其影像学特征与临床指标的关系也会得到进一步探索。

利益冲突 本研究由署名作者按以下贡献声明独立开展,不涉及任何利益冲突。

作者贡献声明 倪妙琪负责文献的整理、综述的撰写;吴爽、金晨涛负责文献的整理、综述的修订;田梅负责命题的提出和综述的审阅。

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