

·综述·

颅内镜像动脉瘤形态学及血流动力学特点 预测破裂风险的研究进展

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颅内镜像动脉瘤是位于双侧载瘤动脉相同或相似的位置、成双或成对的动脉瘤,属于多发动脉瘤的特殊类型,发病率在8%~12%,最常见于大脑中动脉,其次为海绵窦段以外的颈内动脉,再次为后交通动脉及其他动脉^[1-3]。

镜像动脉瘤的发生、发展与多种因素相关,包括先天性遗传因素(如马凡氏综合征、VII因子缺乏等)、体重指数减少、形态学特点以及血流动力学特点,其中形态学及血流动力学在其进展方面发挥重要的作用^[4];同时,还受到病人自身高危因素的影响,例如性别、年龄、既往蛛网膜下腔出血病史、家族史、高脂血症、高血压、吸烟和饮酒以及动脉瘤的部位等^[5]。

颅内动脉瘤的破裂率在1%~2%^[6]。颅内动脉瘤的破裂与形态学特征及血流动力学的特征有关,同时动脉瘤几何形状和血流动力学是相互影响的,动脉瘤形态决定了动脉瘤囊的特定血流模式,而血流驱动动脉瘤囊腔的重塑或生长,导致动脉瘤形态发生变化^[7]。两者共同作用与颅内动脉瘤的发生、进展以及破裂的全过程。血流动力学变化与血管内皮细胞功能紊乱、凋亡和重塑相关,血流动力学参数也受心率、血流状态、动脉瘤位置、边界条件设定等的影响^[8]。本文就颅内镜像动脉瘤形态学及血流动力学特点预测破裂风险的研究进展进行综述。

1 形态学特征

形态学特征指动脉瘤的几何形态特征,其形态学参数测量方法见图1。

2.1 动脉瘤瘤颈宽度(neck width, NW) Tang等^[6]在

镜像动脉瘤的研究中发现,窄颈的动脉瘤表现出更复杂的血流动力学特征,加速动脉瘤壁的损伤和重塑,但宽颈的动脉瘤发生破裂的比例高。Xu等^[9]纳入54例大脑中动脉镜像动脉瘤进行形态学分析,结果发现较小的NW限制动脉瘤血流的流出,较大的动脉瘤囊和较小的流出面积限制了瘤囊内血液的快速流出,产生更多的涡流,瘤囊内的血流流速变慢,使瘤囊内血流动力学产生较大变化,导致血管内皮损伤及退化。动脉瘤破裂是动态进程,窄颈动脉瘤发生血流动力学变化,导致动脉瘤形态学变化,由窄颈逐渐进展为宽颈,最终发生破裂。

2.2 动脉瘤尺寸比(size ratio, SR) 定义为最大高度

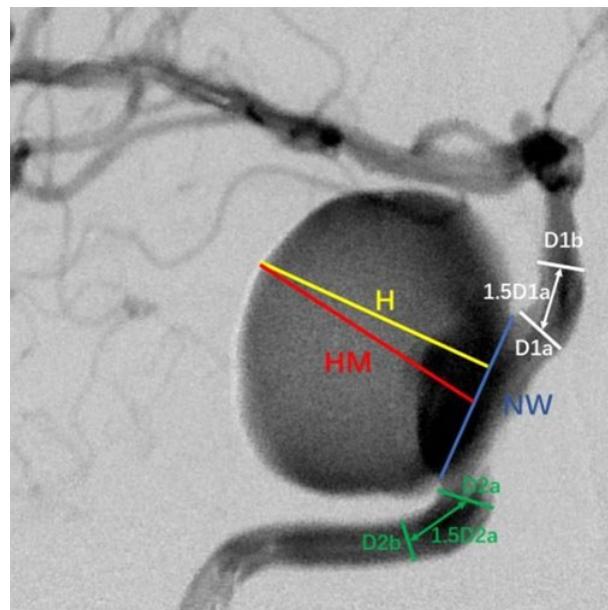


图1 颅内动脉瘤的形态学参数测量

H. 高度,即瘤顶到颈部平面的垂直距离;HM. 瘤顶到颈部平面中心的最大距离;NW. 瘤颈宽度,即动脉瘤颈的最大横截面直径;纵横比. 高度与颈宽的比值;尺寸比. HM与D的比值;D. 载瘤动脉平均直径,是接近动脉瘤颈部的血管横截面直径(Da)和横截面直径(Db)的均值,两者间距1.5个Da, $D = [(D_{1a} + D_{1b})/2 + (D_{2a} + D_{2b})/2 + (D_{3a} + D_{3b})/2 + \dots (D_{na} + D_{nb})/2]/n$

与载瘤动脉平均直径的比值。研究指出,颅内镜像动脉瘤中,较大的SR更易破裂^[2,3,5,6,10]。对两个大小相同的动脉瘤,SR越高,表示载瘤动脉的直径越小。Ma等^[11]将SR对动脉瘤的影响进行CFD模拟实验研究,SR增大则动脉瘤腔内出现更复杂的涡流,血流方向紊乱甚至逆转,这种复杂的血流在动脉瘤壁上产生不同的剪切应力和压力。这些不稳定、复杂的血流动力学改变促进动脉瘤内皮细胞损伤、变性,导致动脉瘤形态学改变,最终发生破裂。

2.3 动脉瘤纵横比(aspect ratio, AR) 研究发现,AR越大,镜像动脉瘤破裂的风险越高^[2,3,9]。AR增加,表现为延长动脉瘤的高度,使动脉瘤发生纵向扩张,从而使动脉瘤的顶变薄,顶部长期受到血流不平衡的剪切应力和压力,导致动脉瘤更容易破裂^[12]。Xu等^[9]纳入54例大脑中动脉镜像动脉瘤病人进行研究,发现较大的高度或较小的宽度,即AR值增高,则动脉瘤内的血液循环较慢,从而引起血流动力学的较大变化,使血流模式复杂,这导致动脉瘤壁退行性变化。最终导致镜像动脉瘤发生破裂。

2.4 分叉部、形状不规则或子囊形成 颅内动脉瘤的几何形态、血流和病理生理学相互密切相关。瘤囊内复杂血流模式产生的高剪切应力和压力导致动脉瘤壁形成不规则形状^[12]。分叉部位的动脉瘤呈现出更复杂的血流模式,使其更容易破裂,同时,有研究发现,不规则、子囊或分叶的动脉瘤与各种大小的颅内动脉瘤破裂相关,并且不受动脉瘤位置及病人自身因素的影响^[13,14]。

2 血流动力学特征

人体结构复杂,无法直接获取动脉瘤内的血流动力学特征,可通过计算机流体力学模拟来实现大脑内部血流动力学的参数,评估颅内动脉瘤的破裂风险,甚至指导颅内动脉瘤的治疗。

2.1 壁剪切应力(wall shear stress, WSS) 定义为每单位面积的血流施加在动脉壁上的每单位面积的切向力。Uchida等^[15]研究发现,破裂前的动脉瘤具有较低的WSS。同时,Han等^[16]纳入761例病人进行荟萃分析发现,破裂比未破裂颅内动脉瘤的WSS显著降低。

WSS通过内皮细胞上的机械感受器将其转化为生物信号,调节基因表达和血管壁的细胞功能。生理性WSS维持血管内皮细胞的正常功能,促进内皮细胞的存活,过量或缺乏刺激可引起动脉壁的病理改变^[17]。高度升高的WSS抑制内皮细胞与血液流动

模式的匹配,导致内皮细胞凋亡^[18]。高WSS增加金属蛋白酶和一氧化氮的产生,引起病理性血管壁重塑,促使动脉瘤的形成,促进动脉瘤的进展^[19]。动脉瘤区域的高WSS会随着动脉瘤的扩大而变为低WSS区域,低WSS无法维持细胞内皮的正常功能而诱导内皮细胞变性^[20]。导致内皮细胞稳定性降低,破裂风险增大。受损的内皮细胞粘附分子诱导炎细胞浸润^[21]。同时,低WSS动脉瘤内血液流速降低,甚至停滞,这将促进炎症细胞浸润、脂质浸润和血栓形成,导致动脉粥样硬化和动脉壁内的微血管形成,这些新的脆弱滋养管反复微出血进一步促进了炎细胞的浸润^[22]。炎症细胞的浸润产生大量金属蛋白酶降解细胞外基质,加速动脉瘤的重构并诱发动脉瘤破裂^[15]。因此,对于低WSS的镜像动脉瘤,其破裂的风险较大。

2.2 壁剪切应力低的区域(low WSS area, LSA) 由暴露于WSS的动脉瘤壁面积低于载瘤动脉平均WSS的10%来描述。研究发现后交通动脉镜像动脉瘤中,较高的LSA与动脉瘤的破裂相关^[2,3,16]。但Xu等^[5]研究发现,针对大脑中动脉镜像动脉瘤,破裂与未破裂的动脉瘤的LSA无统计学差异。因为动脉位置不同,动脉瘤是否有子囊或分叶等形状不规则,动脉瘤的大小、病人自身高危因素等均可能产生试验误差,从而使不同研究出现差异性结果。因此,LSA与颅内镜像动脉瘤破裂的关系,仍需校正这些误差因素的研究进一步验证。

2.3 剪切振荡指数(oscillatory shear index, OSI) 定义为测量心动周期期间WSS的方向变化,是一个无量纲参数。Tang等^[6]研究表明,镜像动脉瘤的破裂与高OSI相关。高OSI使血管内皮重新排列,间接导致内皮细胞功能障碍,从而影响动脉瘤的形成和生长^[23]。高OSI作用机制与低WSS类似,也是通过调控内皮细胞功能,促进动脉粥样硬化和炎症细胞浸润,这些血流动力学条件触发的动脉粥样硬化和炎症通路可能导致动脉瘤壁退化,最终导致破裂。研究发现,高OSI与动脉瘤内膜的增厚相关,内膜的增厚减少营养物质向内膜的流动,导致动脉壁弹性与胶原蛋白结构的恶化^[24]。但也有研究未发现破裂与未破裂动脉瘤的OSI具有统计学差异^[2,3,5,8]。因此,针对OSI与颅内镜像动脉瘤破裂的关系,仍需要大样本、多中心研究进一步探索。

2.4 WSS梯度(WSS gradient, WSSG) WSSG随血流速度的增加或减少而产生,取决于血液流动模式,加速流动产生正向WSSG,而减速流动产生负向WSSG

^[25]。Hu等^[8]研究表明,高WSSG与镜像动脉瘤的破裂相关。高WSSG部位与内膜增生、动脉粥样硬化以及血管壁通透性增加有关,高WSSG往往发生在功能失调内膜病理性增生的细胞区域^[26]。显著和持续的高WSSG值将间接启动动脉粥样硬化过程^[24]。这些病理改变将导致动脉瘤瘤壁变薄弱,最终破裂。

3 总结与展望

颅内镜像动脉瘤的破裂受诸多因素的影响。形态学方面包括窄颈、高AR、高SR、分叉部、不规则、子囊形成的镜像动脉瘤具有较高风险。血流动力学方面,低WSS、高LSA、高OSI、高WSSG与镜像动脉瘤的破裂相关。同时,高血压、吸烟、高脂血症、中年女性为镜像动脉瘤破裂的高危因素^[27]。形态学参数可能会受到血管痉挛的影响,血管痉挛通常发生在出血后5 d,会影响载瘤动脉的形态。同时,动脉瘤破裂是一种瞬时事件,可能会改变动脉瘤的大小和形态,很难直接在破裂前和破裂后成像数据之间比较这些形态和血流动力学分析,因为大多数选定的具有高破裂风险的动脉瘤已经接受了手术,预防其破裂。今后,颅内镜像动脉瘤破裂风险的研究不仅着手于大样本、多中心的研究,也要考虑血管痉挛等其他因素的影响。

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