

· 论著 ·

胃饥饿素对衣霉素诱导成骨细胞内质网应激的影响

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摘要: 目的 建立衣霉素诱导成骨细胞内质网应激的模型,探讨胃饥饿素(ghrelin)对衣霉素诱导成骨细胞内质网应激的影响。**方法** 选取小鼠成骨细胞MC3T3-E1为研究对象,①分别将不同浓度的衣霉素(0、0.5、1、1.5 μg/mL)加入成骨细胞培养基中,分别孵育24 h后,采用CCK-8法检测细胞增殖活性;二氯二氢荧光素-乙酰乙酸酯探针(DCFH-DA)检测胞内活性氧(ROS)的含量;real-time quantitative PCR(qRT-PCR)检测各组细胞内内质网应激相关标志性基因BIP、CHOP、caspase-12 mRNA的表达。最后选择衣霉素作用最敏感浓度1.5 μg/mL,建立成骨细胞内质网应激的模型。②观察ghrelin对成骨细胞内质网应激的影响。分别用不同浓度的ghrelin(0、10⁻¹¹、10⁻⁹、10⁻⁷ mmol/L)预处理成骨细胞4 h后,加入1.5 μg/mL的衣霉素诱导成骨细胞内质网应激。培养结束后,利用上述方法检测细胞增殖活性、胞内ROS的含量、内质网应激相关标志性基因的表达。**结果** 与对照组相比,不同浓度的衣霉素干预成骨细胞24 h后,细胞增殖和存活率呈浓度依赖性明显降低。1.0 μg/mL和1.5 μg/mL的衣霉素干预细胞24 h后细胞增殖和存活率的降低有统计学意义($P<0.05$),而0.5 μg/mL的衣霉素干预后无统计学意义($P>0.05$);与对照组相比,胞内ROS的含量随浓度的增加逐渐增加($P<0.05$);qRT-PCR结果显示,与对照组相比,不同浓度衣霉素干预细胞后CHOP mRNA的表达均有明显的提高且均有统计学意义($P<0.05$),而BIP、caspase-12 mRNA的表达只在1.0 μg/mL和1.5 μg/mL衣霉素干预后有统计学意义($P<0.05$),0.5 μg/mL衣霉素干预后无统计学意义($P>0.05$);②与单纯1.5 μg/mL衣霉素相比,用不同浓度的ghrelin预处理成骨细胞4 h后再加1.5 μg/mL衣霉素,发现细胞增殖和存活率随ghrelin浓度增高而增加,10⁻⁹、10⁻⁷ mmol/L ghrelin预处理后有统计学意义($P<0.05$),而10⁻¹¹ mmol/L ghrelin预处理后无统计学意义($P>0.05$);与单纯1.5 μg/mL衣霉素相比,不同浓度的ghrelin预处理后胞内ROS的含量减少,且均有统计学意义($P<0.05$);qRT-PCR结果显示,在10⁻⁹和10⁻⁷ mmol/L ghrelin预处理后,CHOP mRNA表达降低有统计学意义($P<0.05$),而10⁻¹¹ mmol/L的ghrelin预处理后无统计学意义($P>0.05$)。对于BIP和caspase-12 mRNA的表达,不同浓度的ghrelin预处理后均有统计学意义($P<0.05$)。**结论** 衣霉素可以诱导成骨细胞内质网应激的发生,ghrelin在一定程度上可以抑制成骨细胞内质网应激。

关键词: 成骨细胞;胃饥饿素;内质网应激;骨质疏松症

Ghrelin inhibits tunicamycin-induced endoplasmic reticulum stress in osteoblasts

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Abstract: Objective To establish models of tunicamycin-induced endoplasmic reticulum stress (ERS) and to explore the effect of ghrelin on osteoblasts of tunicamycin-induced ERS. **Methods** MC3T3-E1 cells were chosen for the study. (1) MC3T3-E1 osteoblasts cultured *in vitro* were treated with different concentrations of tunicamycin (0, 0.5, 1.0, 1.5 μg/mL) for 24 h. CCK-8 assay was used to determine cell viability. DCFH-DA probe was used to detect intracellular ROS level. Real-time quantitative PCR was used to measure the expression of BIP, CHOP, caspase-12 mRNA in each group. Finally, the most sensitive concentration of tunicamycin (1.5 μg/mL) was chosen to establish the ERS model. (2) The effect of ghrelin on osteoblasts under ERS was observed. MC3T3-E1 osteoblasts cultured *in vitro* were pretreated with different concentrations of ghrelin (0, 10⁻¹¹, 10⁻⁹, 10⁻⁷ mmol/L) for 4 h. Then the cells were treated with 1.5 μg/mL tunicamycin to establish ERS model. After the completion of the culture, the cell proliferation activity, the content of intracellular ROS, and the expression of ERS-related marker genes were detected using the above method. **Results** Compared with the control group, the osteoblast viability and proliferation decreased in a dose-dependent manner after treated with different concentrations of tunicamycin for 24 h. The statistical significance appeared in cells treated with 1.0 μg/mL and 1.5 μg/mL of tunicamycin ($P < 0.05$), but not in those with 0.5 μg/mL of tunicamycin ($P > 0.05$). Compared with the control group, the content of intracellular ROS increased in a dose-dependent manner ($P < 0.05$). qRT-PCR result showed that the expressions of CHOP mRNA in all concentration of tunicamycin-added cells were higher than those in the control group ($P < 0.05$). The expressions of BIP and caspase-12 mRNA were statistically significant only in cells with 1.0 μg/mL and 1.5 μg/mL of tunicamycin ($P < 0.05$), but not in cells with 0.5 μg/mL of tunicamycin ($P > 0.05$). (2) Compared with cells with addition of 1.5 μg/mL tunicamycin alone, cells pretreated with different concentrations of ghrelin for 4 h followed by addition of 1.5 μg/mL tunicamycin revealed that cell proliferation and survival increased with increasing ghrelin concentration. The statistical significance appeared in 10⁻⁹ and 10⁻⁷ mmol/L of ghrelin pretreatment ($P < 0.05$), but not in 10⁻¹¹ mmol/L ghrelin pretreatment ($P > 0.05$). Also, the content of intracellular ROS reduced significantly in cells pretreated with different concentrations of ghrelin for 4 h ($P < 0.05$). qRT-PCR result showed that after pretreatment with 10⁻⁹ and 10⁻⁷ mmol/L of ghrelin, the decrease of CHOP mRNA expression was statistically significant ($P < 0.05$), but the difference was not statistically significant after 10⁻¹¹ mmol/L ghrelin pretreatment ($P > 0.05$). The mRNA expressions of BIP and caspase-12 were statistically significant after pretreatment with different concentrations of ghrelin ($P < 0.05$). **Conclusion** Tunicamycin can induce ERS in osteoblasts. Ghrelin can inhibit ERS in osteoblasts to some extent.

Key words: osteoblast cells; ghrelin; endoplasmic reticulum stress; osteoporosis

内质网是负责细胞内蛋白质合成、折叠、成熟和加工的重要细胞器。当细胞遭遇衰老、基因突变、营养缺失、病原体感染时^[1],将会导致内质网中蛋白质的错误折叠或未折叠,这将会引起内质网管腔中蛋白质的累积,从而引发内质网应激(endoplasmic reticulum stress, ERS)^[2],过度的 ERS 会诱导细胞凋亡。而成骨细胞内的 ERS 是发生骨质疏松的主要机制之一^[3],但具体机制不清。

Ghrelin 是主要分泌于胃底部泌酸粘膜区的一种胃肠道激素,其主要作用是促进食欲和生长激素的分泌,是生长激素促分泌受体(GHSR)的天然配体^[4]。GHSR 表达于不同组织,如大脑^[5]、肾脏^[6]和前列腺^[7],同时也表达于成骨细胞,直接促进成骨细胞的增殖和分化^[8]。动物实验和体外实验均以证明,ghrelin 对骨形成具有保护作用^[9]。在临床中发现,胃大部切除术后可迅速引起骨量减少,而不依赖于钙吸收不足等缺陷。说明 ghrelin 对体内的骨重建起到重要的作用^[10]。本研究通过衣霉素诱导成骨细胞内质网应激模型,利用 ghrelin 预处理成骨

细胞后,观察 ghrelin 对成骨细胞内质网应激的影响。

1 材料和方法

1.1 实验材料

小鼠前体成骨细胞 MC 3T3-E1 购于中科院上海细胞库;α-MEM 培养基、胎牛血清购自美国 GIBCO 公司;胰蛋白酶、青链霉素混合液、二甲基亚砜(DMSO)、CCK-8 试剂盒购自北京索莱宝公司;活性氧(ROS)测试盒购自南京建成生物工程研究所;引物由上海生工公司设计并合成;胃饥饿素由南京肽业生物科技有限公司合成;衣霉素购自美国 Cayman Chemical 公司;Trizol 购自美国 Sigma 公司;反转录试剂盒、RT-PCR 试剂盒购自日本 Takara 公司。

1.2 实验方法

1.2.1 细胞培养: 将 MC3T3-E1 细胞培养于含有 10% 胎牛血清、1% 双抗的 α-MEM 培养基中,置于 5% CO₂、37 °C 条件的培养箱中培养,每 2 d 换液 1

次,待细胞密度长至70%~80%时进行细胞传代。

1.2.2 细胞活性检测:采用CCK-8法。取对数生长期状态良好的细胞以5000/孔的密度接种于96孔板中,每孔100 μL,待培养箱中培养24 h贴壁后,更换含不同浓度衣霉素的完全培养基,根据衣霉素的浓度分为5组,即0 μg/mL组、0.5 μg/mL组、1 μg/mL组、1.5 μg/mL组。每组4个复孔,另设调零孔。继续培养24 h后,每孔加入10 μL的CCK-8试剂,孵育4 h后用酶标仪测定450 nm波长处的吸光度(A值)。选取最敏感浓度1.5 μg/mL的衣霉素浓度做后续的实验。为验证ghrelin对内质网应激的影响,用不同浓度的ghrelin(0、10⁻¹¹、10⁻⁹、10⁻⁷ mol/L)预处理细胞4 h后再加入1.5 μg/mL的衣霉素干预24 h,每组4个复孔,另设零孔。培养结束后,采用上述方法检测每孔吸光度。实验重复3次。ghrelin的合成序列见图1。

1.2.3 胞内活性氧(ROS)测定:根据ROS检测试剂盒说明书进行检测。简言之,将生长状态良好的细胞以5000/孔的密度接种于96孔板中,孵育24 h贴壁后,分组方法同前,每组4个复孔。用无血清的培养液将荧光探针DCFH-DA稀释至10 μmol/L,去除细胞培养液,每孔加入50 μL的稀释的DCFH-DA,于培养箱中避光孵育45 min,用PBS洗涤细胞3次,以充分去除未进入细胞的DCFH-DA。用荧光酶标仪在488 nm激发波长、525 nm发射波长处检测荧光强度。实验重复3次。

1.2.4 实时定量PCR检测:采用实时定量PCR $2^{-\Delta\Delta CT}$ 法。细胞以密度为10⁵/孔接种于6孔板中,孵育24 h贴壁后,分组方法同上。每组设定3个平行孔。培养结束后,使用Trizol试剂常规提取细胞总RNA,测定其纯度、浓度并反转录为cDNA。总反应体系为25 μL,包括dd水8.5 μL、正反引物各1 μL、cDNA 2 μL、TB Green Premix Ex TaqII 12.5 μL。反应条件:95 °C 30 s, 95 °C 5 s, 60 °C 60 s, 40个循环。各基因引物序列及引物扩增片段长度见表1。

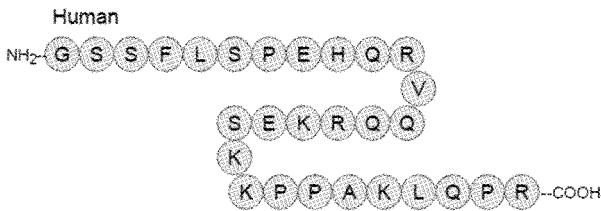


图1 酰化ghrelin的合成序列

Fig.1 The synthetic sequence of acylated ghrelin

表1 GRP78、CHOP、caspase-12的引物序列

Table 1 Primer sequences of GRP78, CHOP, and caspase-12

名称	引物序列	片段长度(bp)
GRP78	F:5'-GCCAACTGTAAACAATCAA-3' R:5'-GCTGTCAGCTGGAGAATA-3'	165
CHOP	F:5'- GCTGGAAGCCTGCTATG-3' R:5'- CTTGGGATGTGCGTGT-3'	183
Caspase-12	F:5'-AAGCTAGGCAAGACTGGTCC-3' R:5'-AATAGTGGGCATCTGGGTCA-3'	147
β-action	F:5'-CCTTCGGTCTCCTACCC-3' R:5'-CCCAAGATGCCCTCAGT-3'	130

1.3 统计学处理

采用统计分析软件SPSS 22.0进行分析,实验数据以均数±标准差($\bar{x}\pm s$)表示。两组间比较采用独立样本t检验,多组间比较采用单因素方差分析(one-way ANOVA),以 $P<0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。

2 结果

2.1 衣霉素干预对细胞增殖活性的影响

与对照组相比,1.0 μg/mL和1.5 μg/mL的衣霉素干预24 h可明显降低成骨细胞的增殖活力和生存率($P<0.05$),而0.5 μg/mL衣霉素干预24 h后对细胞增殖无明显影响($P>0.05$)。见表2。根据以上结果,本实验决定用效果最明显的1.5 μg/mL的衣霉素进行后续的实验。

表2 不同浓度的衣霉素对细胞增殖活力的影响($\bar{x}\pm s$)

Table 2 Effects of different concentrations of tunicamycin on cell proliferation($\bar{x}\pm s$)

组别	A ₅₇₀	存活率(%)
对照组	0.989±0.036	100
Tm(0.5 μg/mL)	0.905±0.011	77.12
Tm(1.0 μg/mL)	0.619±0.028*	61.75*
Tm(1.5 μg/mL)	0.444±0.043**	44.36**

注:Tm:衣霉素;G:ghrelin;与对照组相比,* $P<0.05$,** $P<0.01$ 。

2.2 衣霉素干预对胞内ROS的影响

用不同浓度的衣霉素干预24 h后,胞内ROS的含量随着衣霉素浓度的增加而增加,与对照组相比明显升高($P<0.05$),而1.5 μg/mL的衣霉素干预细胞24 h后胞内ROS的含量将近是空白对照组的2倍($P<0.001$)。见图2。

2.3 衣霉素干预成骨细胞对BIP、CHOP、caspase-12表达的影响

与对照组相比,用不同浓度的衣霉素干预成骨细胞24 h后CHOP、BIP、caspase-12 mRNA的表达

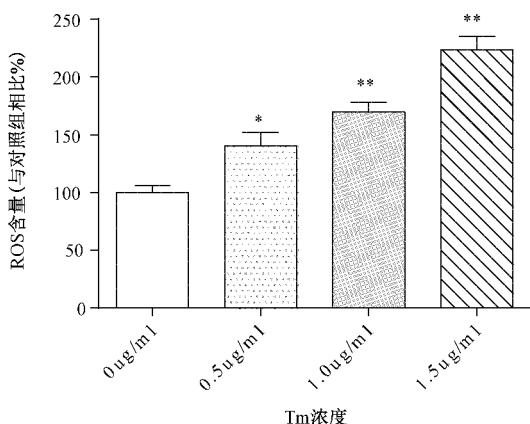


图 2 不同浓度的衣霉素对胞内 ROS 含量的影响

注:与 $0 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ 的衣霉素相比, * $P < 0.05$, ** $P < 0.01$ 。

Fig. 2 Effects of different concentrations of tunicamycin on intracellular ROS content

水平呈浓度依赖性增加。于 CHOP mRNA 的表达, 不同浓度的衣霉素均有统计学意义 ($P < 0.05$)。于 BIP 和 caspase-12 mRNA 的表达, $1.0 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ 和 $1.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ 的衣霉素干预 24 h 后有统计学意义 ($P < 0.05$), 而 $0.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ 的衣霉素干预 24 h 后无统计学意义 ($P > 0.05$)。见表 3。

表 3 不同浓度的衣霉素对成骨细胞 CHOP、BIP、caspase-12 mRNA 表达的影响 ($\bar{x} \pm s$)

Table 3 Effects of different concentrations of tunicamycin on the expression of CHOP, BIP, and caspase-12 mRNA in the cells ($\bar{x} \pm s$)

组别 ($\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$)	CHOP	BIP	caspase-12
对照	1.00 ± 0.231	1.00 ± 0.182	1.00 ± 0.237
0.	$515.68 \pm 0.470^*$	1.29 ± 0.297	1.57 ± 0.362
1.0	$20.49 \pm 0.124^*$	$5.71 \pm 0.673^*$	$8.23 \pm 0.450^*$
1.5	$27.48 \pm 0.205^*$	$8.57 \pm 0.534^*$	$10.23 \pm 0.471^*$

注:与对照组比较, * $P < 0.05$ 。

2.4 ghrelin 预处理对衣霉素干预成骨细胞增殖的影响

与单纯 $1.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ 的衣霉素相比, 用不同浓度的 ghrelin 预处理 4 h 后再加入衣霉素干预 24 h 可以使细胞增殖活力和存活率提高。 10^{-9} mmol/L 和 10^{-7} mmol/L 的 ghrelin 组细胞增殖活力和存活率明显提高 ($P < 0.05$), 而 10^{-11} mmol/L 的 ghrelin 组差异无统计学意义 ($P > 0.05$)。与对照组比, 单纯加入不同浓度的 ghrelin 干预 4 h 后, 细胞增殖活力和生存率无统计学意义 ($P > 0.05$), 见表 4。

表 4 不同浓度的 ghrelin 预处理对衣霉素干预细胞增殖活力的影响 ($\bar{x} \pm s$)

Table 4 Effects of pretreatment with different concentrations of ghrelin on cell proliferation ($\bar{x} \pm s$)

组别 ($\mu\text{g}/\text{mL}+\text{mmol}/\text{L}$)	A_{570}	存活率 (%)
空白	0.974 ± 0.026	100
Tm	0.467 ± 0.037	44.36
Tm+G (10^{-11})	0.509 ± 0.035	61.56
Tm+G (10^{-9})	$0.639 \pm 0.038^*$	73.63 [#]
Tm+G (10^{-7})	$0.741 \pm 0.031^*$	83.87 [#]

注:与单纯 $1.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ 衣霉素相比, ^{*} $P < 0.05$

2.5 ghrelin 预处理对衣霉素干预成骨细胞胞内 ROS 的影响

与单纯 $1.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ 的衣霉素相比, 用不同浓度的 ghrelin 预处理成骨细胞 4 h 后再加入衣霉素干预细胞 24 h 后, 胞内 ROS 的含量随着 ghrelin 浓度的增加而减少。用 10^{-11} mmol/L 的 ghrelin 预处理后, 差异有统计学意义 ($P < 0.05$), 而 10^{-9} mmol/L 和 10^{-7} mmol/L 组的 ghrelin 预处理后差异有明显的统计学意义 ($P < 0.001$)。与对照组相比, 单独 ghrelin 干预成骨细胞 4 h, 胞内 ROS 的含量差异无统计学意义 ($P > 0.05$), 见图 3。

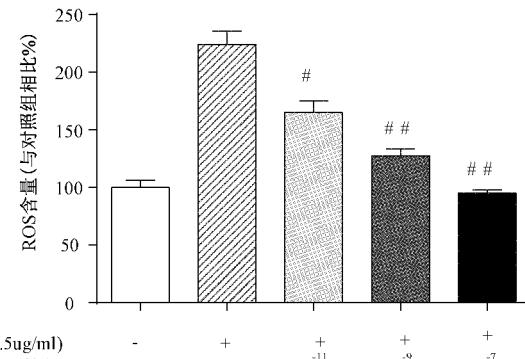


图 3 不同浓度的 ghrelin 预处理对衣霉素干预细胞后胞内 ROS 含量的影响

注:与单纯 $1.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ 衣霉素相比, ^{*} $P < 0.05$, ^{##} $P < 0.01$ 。

Fig. 3 Effects of pretreatment with different concentrations of ghrelin on intracellular ROS content after tunicamycin intervention

2.6 Ghrelin 预处理对衣霉素干预成骨细胞 CHOP、BIP、caspase-12 mRNA 表达的影响

与单纯 $1.5 \mu\text{g}/\text{mL}$ 的衣霉素相比, 不同浓度的 ghrelin 预处理后均可降低由衣霉素引起的 CHOP、BIP、caspase-12 mRNA 表达的增高, 对于 CHOP mRNA 的表达, 在 10^{-11} mmol/L ghrelin 干预 4 h 后无统计学意义 ($P > 0.05$), 呈现与单纯衣霉素干预组

相反的趋势(均 $P < 0.05$)。见表5。

表5 不同浓度的 ghrelin 预处理对衣霉素干预细胞后对 CHOP、BIP、caspase-12 mRNA 表达的影响

Table 5 Effects of pretreatment with different concentrations of ghrelin on the expression of CHOP, BIP, and caspase-12 mRNA in the cells

组别	CHOP	BIP	caspase-12
对照组	1.00±0.325	1.00±0.060	1.00±0.352
Tm	27.48±0.205	8.57±0.622	10.23±0.471
Tm+G(10^{-11} mmol/L)	23.51±0.336	5.45±0.546*	7.89±0.358*
Tm+G(10^{-9} mmol/L)	18.87±0.452*	2.21±0.223*	5.08±0.219*
Tm+G(10^{-7} mmol/L)	9.06±0.209*	1.19±0.856*	2.67±0.177*

注:Tm:1.5 μg/mL 衣霉素;G:ghrelin;与单纯1.5 μg/mL 衣霉素相比,* $P < 0.05$ 。

3 讨论

ghrelin 是1999年由日本科学家 Kojima 发现的含有28个氨基酸的多肽激素,主要分泌于胃底部泌酸粘膜区的X/A细胞,另在垂体、下丘脑、肺、肾脏、睾丸、卵巢中少量分泌^[11-12]。ghrelin 最初发现是作为内源性生长激素促泌受体(GHSR)的天然配体,其主要作用是促进食欲和生长激素的分泌。因GHSR 广泛表达于多种组织中,其生物作用非常广泛,可促进胃蠕动和胃酸的分泌^[13],与味觉^[14]、压力和焦虑^[15]、葡萄糖的代谢^[16]、心脏的输出^[17]和骨形成^[8]有关。近年来随着对 ghrelin 的深入研究,越来越多的证据证明 ghrelin 和骨质疏松之间存在着密切的关系。Nouh 等^[18]以绝经前、围绝经期和绝经后妇女为研究对象,对其进行骨矿物质密度(BMD)和 ghrelin 水平的测定。发现与绝经前组相比,围绝经期和绝经后组的平均血浆 ghrelin 水平和 BMD 显著下降,且 ghrelin 与 BMD 之间存在显著的正相关,证明 ghrelin 可以影响 BMD,但具体机制不清。有学者认为 ghrelin 有可能是骨骼的潜在促进因子^[19-20]。Yu 等^[21]观察到,对30位病态肥胖患者进行胃旁路手术,20位肥胖患者进行假手术。2年后手术组比假手术组脊柱和髋部 BMD 均明显下降,且两组中血钙、维生素D 和甲状旁腺素(PTH)水平保持稳定,BMD 下降原因具体机制不清,因胃旁路手术后阻断胃底部血运,致 ghrelin 分泌减少。所以考虑是因 ghrelin 水平降低所导致的。但至今研究甚少,需进一步研究证明。

内质网是细胞内负责蛋白质合成、折叠、运输的重要细胞器,当细胞内未折叠或错误折叠蛋白质的量超过内质网处理能力后即会发生内质网应激。活

性氧(ROS)是生物代谢的衍生物,可破坏并氧化蛋白质、脂质和DNA,导致细胞功能改变,促进骨质的流失引起骨质疏松^[22]。据报道,ROS 是导致内质网中错误蛋白折叠的主要原因^[23]。观察性研究发现,骨质疏松患者和去卵巢成年大鼠的 ROS 和 BMD 值之间呈负相关^[24]。适度的内质网应激可以保护细胞的功能,而过度的内质网应激则促进细胞的凋亡。在内质网中存在三种跨膜蛋白,分别是蛋白激酶激酶 RNA 样内质网激酶(protein kinase RNA-like endoplasmic reticulum kinases, PERK),IRE1 (inositol requiring kinase 1)、活化转录因子 6 (activating transcription factor 6, ATF6)。正常情况下,三种跨膜蛋白和分子伴侣免疫球蛋白结合蛋白/葡萄糖调节蛋白 78 (immunoglobulin binding protein, BIP/glucose-regulated protein 78, GRP78)结合,使其失去活性^[25]。当适度的内质网应激时,BIP 从三种跨膜蛋白中解离并活化 PERK、IRE1、ATF6,启动内质网应激的保护作用^[26]。当持续或过度的内质网应激时,细胞已不能恢复功能,则通过 CHOP 途径、caspase-12 途径、JNK 途径诱导细胞凋亡^[27]。内质网应激与许多疾病有关。包括癌症^[28]、神经性疾病^[29]、糖尿病^[30]、心脏病^[31]、肝脏疾病^[32]和骨质疏松症^[3]。而成骨细胞中内质网应激是发生骨质疏松的重要机制之一^[3,33],但在成骨细胞中有关 ghrelin 和内质网应激的关系研究甚少。

本研究是探究 ghrelin 是否可以抑制成骨细胞内质网应激来预防骨质疏松的发生。以MC3T3-E1为研究对象,通过1.5 μg/mL 的衣霉素干预成骨细胞建立内质网应激模型,测定成骨细胞的增殖活力,胞内ROS的含量、内质网应激标志性基因的表达含量能反映内质网应激的发生。然后用不同浓度的 ghrelin 预处理细胞4 h 后,用同样方法检测上述指标。结果发现,ghrelin 预处理后细胞的存活率升高,胞内ROS的含量和内质网应激相关标志性基因表达量降低,说明 ghrelin 可以改善成骨细胞的内质网应激。已经提出一种 ghrelin 改善细胞中内质网应激的机制,即 ghrelin 增加细胞内抗氧化活性^[34],我们的数据显示 ghrelin 可以降低衣霉素诱导后胞内ROS的含量,表明 ghrelin 可以上调细胞内抗氧化酶或 ghrelin 即具有抗氧化活性。一项研究^[35]发现,ghrelin 可以改善由内质网应激诱导的大鼠心肌损伤和凋亡,其可能通过激活 AMP 依赖的蛋白激酶(AMP-activated protein kinase, AMPK),AMPK 作为燃料传感器,调节细胞和全身的能量平衡。也有

研究^[36]认为, ghrelin 的保护作用是由刺激 GHSR 所介导的, 但具体下游机制还未确定。但有待于观察 ghrelin 是否通过 AMPK 改善成骨细胞中的内质网应激。现已证明 ghrelin 可以改善心肌细胞中的内质网应激, 防止动脉粥样硬化的发生^[17] 和缺血再灌注损伤^[37]。ghrelin 还可改善由高水平的亚硫酸盐诱导的内质网应激^[38]。在成骨细胞中, 已证明 ghrelin 可以改善氧化应激带来的细胞的凋亡^[39]。虽说对 ghrelin 对成骨细胞内质网应激的研究甚少, 但不能否定其价值。尤其对于骨质疏松的治疗, 不仅可以促进成骨细胞的增殖和分化, 同时抑制细胞的凋亡, 为骨质疏松的治疗提供新的方案, 但需要更多的试验进行验证。

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