



· 综 述 ·

# 循环肿瘤DNA在胃癌诊疗中的应用进展和展望

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[摘要] 胃癌是全球范围内常见的恶性肿瘤之一, 因起病隐匿、缺乏特异性临床表现, 多数患者就诊时已处于晚期, 预后较差。因此, 寻找具有特异性和敏感性的生物标志物以协助诊断、指导治疗和预判预后具有重要意义。循环肿瘤DNA (circulating tumor DNA, ctDNA) 是肿瘤细胞释放到血浆中的游离DNA片段, 携带肿瘤相关的特异性基因特征和表观遗传学改变。与传统的组织活检相比, ctDNA具有许多优势, 它可以利用微创获取的血液样本捕获肿瘤基因组图谱、克服肿瘤异质性并动态监测治疗反应、预测复发风险。在早期诊断方面, 研究者将外周血ctDNA突变与蛋白质标志物相结合研发出名CancerSEEK的检测方法, 在胃癌、食管癌及胰腺癌早期诊断的敏感度超过69%。另一项研究则利用153个游离DNA甲基化位点进行联合检测, 对 I、II、III期胃癌的诊断灵敏度分别为44%、59%和78%, 特异度为92%。在指导治疗方面, ctDNA检测有助于筛选可能从表皮生长因子受体2 (human epidermal growth factor receptor 2, HER2)、成纤维细胞生长因子受体2 (fibroblast growth factor receptor 2, FGFR2) 和表皮生长因子受体 (epidermal growth factor receptor, EGFR) 靶向治疗中获益的胃癌患者。此外, 免疫治疗联合化疗已成为晚期胃癌患者的标准治疗方案, ctDNA检测能够对微卫星状态、肿瘤突变负荷和EB病毒相关胃癌进行评估, 从而预测免疫治疗的效果, 而特定基因如*TGFBR2*、*RHOA*和*PREX2*突变则提示免疫治疗效果不佳。对接受新辅助化疗或姑息性化疗的胃癌患者, 化疗期间ctDNA拷贝数不稳定性、拷贝数变异和突变等位基因频率负荷的动态变化与疗效显著相关, 动态监测有利于在出现影像学改变前及时调整治疗方案。在预测复发和预后方面, 已有研究发现微小残留病变 (minimal residual disease, MRD) 可能是局部晚期癌症患者成功治疗后复发的主要原因, 这在乳腺癌、肺癌和结直肠癌的随访复查中得到证实。利用ctDNA检测胃癌术后MRD表明, 在随访过程中任何时间节点的ctDNA阳性都与复发风险增加相关, 无病生存期和总生存期也较短, 与影像学复发相比其中位提前时间为4.5~6.0个月。此外, ctDNA检测中的*TP53*突变、*MET*扩增、*THBS1*与*TIMP-3*甲基化和肿瘤进展或腹膜转移相关, 预后同样较差。尽管 ctDNA 作为一种微创肿瘤筛查和监测生物标志物具有巨大的潜力, 其在胃癌的应用中仍面临一些限制和挑战。本文就ctDNA在胃癌中的应用现状和前景进行综述。

[关键词] 胃恶性肿瘤; ctDNA; 液体活检; 生物标志物

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**The progress and future prospects of the application of circulating tumor DNA in the diagnosis and treatment of gastric cancer** SUN Chongyuan, ZHAO Dongbing (Department of Pancreatic and Gastric Surgery, National Cancer Center, National Clinical Research Center for Cancer, Cancer Hospital, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences and Peking Union Medical College, Beijing 100021, China)

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[Abstract] Gastric cancer is a prevalent malignant neoplasm globally, characterized by insidious onset, lack of specific clinical manifestations, and a tendency for patients to present at advanced stages with poor prognosis. Therefore, the quest for highly specific and sensitive biomarkers to assist in diagnosis, guide treatment, and predict prognosis holds paramount significance. Circulating tumor DNA (ctDNA), consisting of cell-free DNA fragments released by tumor cells into the plasma, carries tumor-specific genetic features and epigenetic alterations. In comparison to conventional tissue biopsies, ctDNA offers numerous advantages. It enables the capture of tumor genomic profiles from minimally invasive blood samples, overcomes tumor heterogeneity, and allows for dynamic

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monitoring of treatment response and prediction of recurrence risk. In the realm of early diagnosis, researchers have developed a detection method called CancerSEEK by combining peripheral blood ctDNA mutations with protein markers, achieving a sensitivity of over 69% in the early detection of gastric, esophageal and pancreatic cancers. Another study utilized a combined detection of 153 methylated DNA sites to diagnose stage I, II, and III gastric cancer with sensitivities of 44%, 59% and 78%, respectively, and a specificity of 92%. Regarding treatment guidance, ctDNA testing facilitates the selection of gastric cancer patients who may benefit from targeted therapies against human epidermal growth factor receptor 2 (HER2), fibroblast growth factor receptor 2 (FGFR 2) and epidermal growth factor receptor (EGFR). Furthermore, immunotherapy in combination with chemotherapy has become the standard treatment regimen for advanced gastric cancer. Evaluating microsatellite status, tumor mutation burden and EB virus-associated gastric cancer through ctDNA analysis can predict the efficacy of immunotherapy. However, specific gene mutations such as *TGFBR2*, *RHOA* and *PREX2* indicate a poor response to immunotherapy. For gastric cancer patients undergoing neoadjuvant or palliative chemotherapy, the dynamic changes in ctDNA copy number instability, copy number variation and mutation allele frequency load during chemotherapy significantly correlate with treatment efficacy. Dynamic monitoring through ctDNA analysis is beneficial for timely adjustment of treatment strategies before imaging changes occur. In the realm of predicting recurrence and prognosis, research has shown that minimal residual disease (MRD) may be the primary cause of post-treatment relapse in patients with locally advanced cancer, which has been confirmed through follow-up studies in breast, lung and colorectal cancers. The utilization of ctDNA testing to detect postoperative MRD in gastric cancer has revealed that ctDNA positivity at any time point during follow-up is associated with an increased risk of recurrence. Furthermore, patients with ctDNA-positive results experience shorter disease-free survival and overall survival, with a median lead time of 4.5 to 6.0 months compared to radiographic recurrence. Additionally, ctDNA analysis has shown correlations between *TP53* mutations, *MET* amplification, *THBS1* and *TIMP-3* methylation, and tumor progression or peritoneal metastasis, indicating similarly poor prognosis. Despite the tremendous potential of ctDNA as a minimally invasive biomarker for tumor screening and monitoring, its application in gastric cancer still faces certain limitations and challenges. This article provided a comprehensive review of the current status and prospects of ctDNA in the field of gastric cancer.

[ **Keyword** ] Gastric cancer; Circulating tumor DNA; Liquid biopsy; Biomarker

胃癌是消化道常见的恶性肿瘤之一，其发病率和死亡率分别居全世界恶性肿瘤的第6位和第3位<sup>[1]</sup>。由于起病隐匿、缺乏特异性临床表现且尚无经过大规模、随机试验验证的胃癌筛查方式，大多数患者在被确诊时已处于晚期或已发生转移<sup>[2-3]</sup>。尽管胃癌的治疗方式已经从传统的手术切除和系统化疗逐步发展到联合放射治疗、靶向治疗和免疫治疗的综合治疗模式<sup>[4]</sup>，胃癌患者的5年生存率仍不尽如人意。此外，胃癌的生物学行为复杂多变，肿瘤细胞具有高度异质性，导致治疗效果不佳。因此，在胃癌的诊断和治疗过程中，寻找一种敏感、特异、方便、实时的生物标志物以反映肿瘤的存在、进展和转化情况显得尤为重要。

循环肿瘤DNA (circulating tumor DNA, ctDNA) 是指坏死或凋亡的肿瘤细胞释放到血液循环中的游离DNA片段，可以携带肿瘤特异性或相关的基因改变信息<sup>[5]</sup>。作为一种液体活检手段，ctDNA具有微创获取血液样本、克服肿瘤内异质性及发现潜在耐药机制或新靶点等优点，在

近年来受到了广泛关注和应用<sup>[6-7]</sup>。本文旨在综述ctDNA的生物学特性及其在胃癌早期诊断、指导治疗、疗效监测、预后评估和耐药机制探索等方面的临床应用并探讨其未来发展方向。

## 1 ctDNA的生物学特征及检测方法

### 1.1 ctDNA的生物学特征

在血液循环系统中，循环游离DNA (circulating free DNA, cfDNA) 是细胞释放出的DNA碎片，包括循环肿瘤DNA、循环细胞外线粒体DNA (circulating cell-free mitochondrial DNA) 和胎儿游离DNA (cell-free fetal DNA)。在健康个体中cfDNA的水平非常低，然而在恶性肿瘤、自身免疫性疾病和过度锻炼等情况下，体内会积累大量的cfDNA<sup>[8-9]</sup>。ctDNA特指源自癌细胞的DNA片段，可以来自原发肿瘤细胞、转移的肿瘤细胞和循环肿瘤细胞的分泌，也可源自肿瘤细胞凋亡或坏死过程中的主动或被动释放<sup>[10]</sup>。cfDNA主要片段的大小与凋亡过程中产生的核小体片段相似，约为170个碱基对，而ctDNA似乎比血浆中其他细胞来源的游离DNA片

段更短<sup>[11-12]</sup>。ctDNA包含原发肿瘤和转移肿瘤细胞特异性的基因特征和表观遗传学特征,如基因的突变、插入、缺失,拷贝数变异和甲基化改变等。已有研究<sup>[13]</sup>表明,与传统组织活检或常规肿瘤标志物相比,ctDNA分析在检测肿瘤特异性遗传变化方面更为灵敏。此外,ctDNA的半衰期通常为15 min~2 h,有助于实时监测<sup>[14]</sup>。

## 1.2 ctDNA的检测方法

血液中的ctDNA浓度很低,常需要使用非常灵敏的工具进行分离和测序。由于在血清制备的过程中会释放更多的野生型DNA,因此使用血浆进行ctDNA检测可以提供更高的灵敏度<sup>[15]</sup>。

目前常用的检测方法包括聚合酶链反应(polymerase chain reaction, PCR)和二代测序(next generation sequencing, NGS)。在PCR方法中,数字PCR(digital PCR, dPCR)被广泛用于ctDNA检测,该法可以定量检测已知的靶基因和突变,测序精度较高,其衍生出的微滴式数字PCR(droplet digital PCR, ddPCR)可精确计算靶分子的拷贝数和浓度<sup>[16]</sup>。BEAMing技术也是一种基于PCR的测序方法,利用磁珠与微乳滴结合的原理对ctDNA进行绝对定量检测。然而,与所有基于PCR的方法一样,每次反应所能检测的突变数量是有限的。相比之下,NGS技术可以同时检测多种肿瘤特异性基因组畸变并提供更广泛的肿瘤分子谱,具有高通量、高精度和高特异性等特点,这种方法在肿瘤的基因组概况未知使用纯血浆检测的情况下十分有用。

## 2 ctDNA在胃癌早期诊断中的应用进展

胃癌患者的无病生存期和总生存期很大程度上取决于肿瘤分期,分期越晚预后越差。因此,通过检测癌前病变和早期肿瘤可以显著提高患者的生存率。目前,常用的肿瘤标志物如癌胚抗原(carcinoembryonic antigen, CEA)和糖类抗原(carbohydrate antigen, CA)19-9在早期胃癌诊断中的敏感性和特异性较差,不适合作为筛查工具<sup>[17]</sup>。ctDNA作为一种新型的生物标志物,在胃癌诊断方面具有一定的潜力。

Cohen等<sup>[18]</sup>开发了CancerSEEK检测方法,将ctDNA突变与8种蛋白质标志物(CA12-5、

CA19-9、CEA等)结合起来,可以在难以发现的胃癌、食管癌、胰腺癌等癌症中实现超过69%的早期诊断率,其在I、II、III期肿瘤诊断中的中位灵敏度分别为43%、73%和78%,特异度达99%。Lan等<sup>[19]</sup>在429例胃癌患者和95名健康对照者组成的队列中发现,当cfDNA截断值设定为2 700拷贝/mL时筛查的灵敏度为68.9% ( $P<0.001$ )。此外,拷贝数变异的检测也可能在胃癌的筛查中发挥作用,Grenda等<sup>[20]</sup>发现与健康对照组相比,胃癌患者血液样本中人表皮生长因子受体2(human epidermal growth factor receptor 2, HER2)基因的拷贝数浓度更高,灵敏度为58%,特异度为98% ( $P=0.004$ )。

除了检测DNA基因组异常外,DNA甲基化在胃癌筛查中也具有很大的潜力。这是因为癌症患者具有独特的DNA甲基化模式,这些异常模式在癌症早期就会出现,因此在筛查中具有很高的应用价值。一项针对胃癌患者的研究设计了一个包含153个cfDNA甲基化位点(DOCK10、CABIN1和KCNQ5等)的面板,其在I、II、III、IV期胃癌诊断的灵敏度分别为44%、59%、78%、100%,特异度为92%<sup>[21]</sup>。此外,GRAIL研发的基于ctDNA甲基化的多癌种早期检测方法(multi-cancer early detection, MCED)在筛查中表现良好,总体特异度为99.5%,灵敏度为51.5%。对胃癌患者群体而言,I、II、III、IV期的诊断灵敏度分别为16.7%、50.0%、80.0%、100.0%<sup>[22]</sup>。另一项回顾性研究利用包含胃腺癌患者和性别年龄匹配的健康志愿者在内的74份血浆样本,筛选出3个DNA甲基化位点(ELMO1、ZNF569、C13orf18)并将其组合,诊断特异度为95%,灵敏度为86%<sup>[23]</sup>。

ctDNA用于早期肿瘤诊断的挑战之一是其检测的敏感性,因为无症状个体的ctDNA水平通常较低,需要使用高敏感的检测方法或结合其他多组学标志物进行分析。另一大挑战在于造血干细胞亚克隆所携带的突变-即克隆性造血会随着年龄的增长而增加,使得难以确定某些突变是来源于衰老过程还是恶性肿瘤,需要与配对的白细胞测序结果进行对比以消除克隆性造血对ctDNA检

测的干扰<sup>[24]</sup>。目前, ctDNA在早期胃癌诊断方面的研究仍处于探索阶段, 需要更多的研究证实其有效性。

### 3 ctDNA在指导治疗、疗效评估和耐药性研究中的应用进展

ctDNA检测是一种无需连续进行组织活检即可提供实时遗传学信息的方法, 可以追踪肿瘤的基因组演化并用于寻找治疗靶点和耐药的分子因素, 从而指导个体化治疗。此外, ctDNA的定量水平变化可用于在肿瘤出现影像学改变前预测治疗反应<sup>[25]</sup>。

HER2状态通常使用肿瘤组织免疫组织化学和(或)荧光原位杂交(fluorescence *in situ* hybridization, FISH)进行常规检测, 是曲妥珠单抗治疗有效性的标志。TOGA研究<sup>[26]</sup>结果显示, 化疗联合曲妥珠单抗可提高HER2阳性胃癌患者的生存率。在此基础上, III期临床研究<sup>[27]</sup>KEYNOTE-811表明在曲妥珠单抗和化疗的基础上加入帕博利珠单抗可显著缩小肿瘤体积、提高客观缓解率, 并在部分受试者中诱导完全缓解。另一项针对亚洲人群进行的II期临床研究<sup>[28]</sup>发现抗体-药物偶联物trastuzumab deruxtecan (T-DXd, DS-8201)在经过治疗的HER2低表达(免疫组织化学检测结果为++/FISH阴性或免疫组织化学检测结果为+)胃癌患者中同样具有临床疗效。然而, HER2的表达在肿瘤内和肿瘤间存在明显的异质性<sup>[29]</sup>, 因此采用基于血浆的测序方法来确认HER2状态可能是一种更好的策略。已有研究<sup>[30-31]</sup>发现基于肿瘤组织和ctDNA的HER2基因扩增一致率在90%以上, 这提示可以通过检测血浆HER2状态来筛选适宜曲妥珠单抗治疗的潜在患者。此外, ctDNA还可被用于分析HER2阳性胃癌患者靶向治疗耐药机制。Zhang等<sup>[32]</sup>的研究结果表明, 基于ctDNA检测得到的ERBB2特定位点突变(V659D和L7555S)可能会导致胃癌患者对吡咯替尼获得性耐药。另一项回顾性研究<sup>[33]</sup>发现, *PIK3CA*突变在先天性曲妥珠单抗耐药患者中显著富集, *NF1*突变可导致曲妥珠单抗耐药, 而HER2和MEK/ERK联合阻断可以克服曲妥珠单抗耐药性。Wang等<sup>[34]</sup>同样

基于ctDNA发现了32个与曲妥珠单抗耐药相关的突变基因, 并提出可用于预测疾病进展的肿瘤分子负荷指数(molecular tumor burden index, mTBI)。

成纤维细胞生长因子受体2(fibroblast growth factor receptor 2, FGFR2)基因扩增是一种可靶向的变异, 在胃癌患者中占3%~15%<sup>[35]</sup>。Tomoko等<sup>[13]</sup>发现在365例晚期胃癌患者中, ctDNA测序检测到28例(7.7%)患者存在*FGFR2*基因扩增, 而通过肿瘤组织检测到的比例为2.6%~4.4%。在接受标准化疗后肿瘤进展的2例患者中, ctDNA测序检测到先前未在肿瘤组织分析中检测到的*FGFR2*基因扩增, 并且这2例患者对FGFR抑制剂有治疗反应。这表明ctDNA测序可以检测到肿瘤组织分析遗漏的*FGFR2*基因扩增, 而这些患者可能对FGFR抑制剂有治疗反应。同样, 经ctDNA或肿瘤组织测序验证为表皮生长因子受体(epidermal growth factor receptor, EGFR)基因扩增的胃癌患者也可能会从EGFR抑制剂治疗中获益<sup>[36-37]</sup>。

随着免疫治疗联合化疗成为晚期胃癌(无法手术切除或已出现远处转移)的标准治疗方案, 寻找能够预测免疫治疗效果的生物标志物具有重要意义<sup>[38]</sup>。有研究者<sup>[39]</sup>使用含有425个基因的NGS面板对46例晚期胃癌患者接受程序性死亡[蛋白]-1(programmed death-1, PD-1)抑制剂治疗前后的ctDNA进行了分析, 结果显示, 当最大突变等位基因频率(maximal variant allele frequency, maxVAF)下降超过25%时, 患者的中位无进展生存期(median progression-free survival, mPFS)显著延长(7.3个月 vs 3.6个月)且客观缓解率(objective response rate, ORR)较高(53% vs 13%)。在基线ctDNA中携带*TGFBR2*、*RHOA*和*PREX2*基因突变的患者在接受免疫治疗时mPFS较短( $P < 0.05$ )。此外, 具有*CEBPA*、*FGFR4*、*MET*或*KMT2B*基因改变的患者免疫相关不良事件(immune-related adverse event, irAE)的发生率较高( $P = 0.09$ )。微卫星不稳定(microsatellite instability, MSI)是预测免疫治疗反应的重要生物标志物之一, Willis

等<sup>[40]</sup>利用Guardant360检测血浆中cfDNA的微小卫星状态,发现其与肿瘤组织检测结果高度一致,能够在全面基因组分析的同时准确地检测MSI状态。此外,肿瘤突变负荷(tumor mutation burden, TMB)和EB病毒也是免疫治疗效果预测的标志物。然而,使用ctDNA进行TMB评估具有一定挑战性,因为有关胃癌患者基于组织TMB(tissue-based TMB, tTMB)与基于血液TMB(blood-based TMB, bTMB)之间一致性的文献较少且需要较大的基因检测面板<sup>[41]</sup>。同样,在EB病毒相关胃癌患者中仅有52%的患者可以在血液中检测到EBV-DNA,一致性较低<sup>[42]</sup>。因此,这些标志物在ctDNA中的应用仍需要进一步验证。

除了可以指导治疗和揭示耐药机制外,ctDNA在治疗过程中定量水平的动态监测可以有效地评估治疗反应。Zhang等<sup>[43]</sup>对79例接受新辅助化疗胃癌患者的ctDNA进行分析,发现新辅助化疗后maxVAF和基因组改变(genomic alteration, GA)数量分别从0.50%下降至0.08%和从2.9下降至1.7。对于治疗后部分缓解(partial response, PR)的患者,maxVAF和GA显著下降,而在疾病进展(progressive disease, PD)的患者中,这些指标有所增加。另一项研究<sup>[44]</sup>则发现新辅助化疗后ctDNA可以预测病理学反应,70%(30/43)患者的术前ctDNA检测结果与病理学反应评估相一致( $P=0.030$ )并且术后ctDNA与无复发生存期显著相关(阳性 vs 阴性:18.7个月 vs 未达到, $P<0.001$ )。Slagter等<sup>[45]</sup>在新辅助治疗后可切除的胃癌患者中得出了类似的结论。对于不可切除晚期胃癌患者,基线拷贝数不稳定性(copy number instability, CNI)、拷贝数变异(copy number variation, CNV)和突变等位基因频率(variant allele frequency, VAF)较高的患者对铂类药物一线治疗方案更为敏感。在PR和疾病稳定(stable disease, SD)的状态下,TMB、CNI和CNV负荷显著低于基线水平,而在PD时恢复到基线水平,说明ctDNA的基线水平和动态变化可作为预测晚期胃癌患者接受铂类药物一线化疗效果的生物标志物<sup>[46]</sup>。

#### 4 ctDNA在检测微小残余病变中的应用进展

目前,局部晚期胃癌根治手术后应通过定期完善肿瘤标志物(如CA19-9和CEA等)、胃镜和胸腹盆增强CT进行随访,如果怀疑临床复发,则进行正电子发射计算机断层显像(positron emission tomography and computed tomography, PET/CT)成像以评估是否需要进一步治疗。但这些技术的敏感性和特异性较差,发现复发时患者多已是晚期<sup>[17]</sup>。外周血ctDNA的应用可以提高对术后微小残留病变(minimal residual disease, MRD)的检测敏感性,MRD是指在治愈性手术后仍然存在的极少量无法通过常规影像学 and 临床检查检测到的癌细胞,可能是局部晚期患者成功治疗后复发的主要原因<sup>[47]</sup>。已经有研究表明,MRD可能与乳腺癌<sup>[48]</sup>、肺癌<sup>[49]</sup>和结直肠癌<sup>[50]</sup>的高复发风险有关。

Yang等<sup>[51]</sup>进行了一项前瞻性队列研究,纳入46例接受胃切除及辅助化疗的I~III期胃癌患者,发现原发肿瘤负担程度与术前ctDNA阳性率显著相关,III期患者的阳性率为68%,而I~II期患者为21%( $P=0.004$ )。在术后随访中,任何时点的ctDNA阳性均与复发风险增加相关(阳性 vs 阴性:100% vs 32%, $P=0.002$ ),预后指标DFS( $P<0.000$ )和OS( $P=0.002$ )也较差,与影像学复发相比其中位提前时间为6个月。Kim等<sup>[52]</sup>利用全基因组测序技术检测25例胃癌患者个性化肿瘤特异性基因突变,通过动态监测胃癌根治术后12个月内的血液ctDNA水平发现,术后12个月内ctDNA阳性与胃癌复发相关( $P=0.029$ )且预示胃癌复发的中位时间较临床复发缩短了4.5个月。这些研究结果表明,ctDNA检测的MRD可以识别高复发风险的患者并可以在辅助治疗中推动新的强化治疗策略以提高生存率。

除了利用外周血进行MRD检测,利用腹腔冲洗液中的ctDNA检测腹腔内游离肿瘤细胞以预测术后腹膜转移也显示出良好的应用前景。本研究团队开发了一种基于二代测序的超低频突变检测技术(Mutation Capsule),能够以超高灵敏度评估极低含量的靶突变并实现多个特征性突变

的个体化联合检测,从而提高检测精准度。Zhao等<sup>[53]</sup>基于该技术将104例胃癌患者肿瘤组织中特异性突变设计为定制面板,并对每位患者术中腹腔冲洗液进行配对检测。随访结果显示该技术可以检测到所有术后发生腹膜转移的患者,其灵敏度和特异度分别为100%和85%。

## 5 ctDNA在预测胃癌患者预后中的应用进展

基于ctDNA的MRD检测可以预测胃癌患者术后的复发风险,阳性患者的复发率较高且OS及DFS均较差,说明ctDNA在预后方面具有一定的应用价值。除了ctDNA的定量检测外,某些突变和甲基化在预后评估方面也具有提示意义。

Li等<sup>[54]</sup>发现胃癌患者中存在TP53突变或MET扩增的患者与没有这些变化的患者相比,总生存期更短(均 $P < 0.001$ )。此外,Ko等<sup>[55]</sup>发现术前长散在核序列(long interspersed nuclear elements, LINE-1)的低甲基化水平是一种负性预后因素,术后高浓度的长片段LINE-1则提示存在微小残留病变和高复发风险。另有两项研究<sup>[56-57]</sup>评估了THBS1和TIMP-3对胃癌患者疾病进展和复发风险的影响,结果显示,术前外周血中THBS1甲基化与腹膜转移及肿瘤进展显著相关( $P < 0.0001$ ),TIMP-3甲基化与较差的无病生存率密切相关( $P < 0.001$ )。cfDNA或ctDNA中PCDH10、RASSF1A、XAF1、SOX17等基因的异常甲基化也显示出在胃癌预后预测方面的潜力<sup>[58-60]</sup>。

## 6 ctDNA检测的局限与展望

综上所述,ctDNA检测在早期胃癌和进展期胃癌中都具有重要的应用价值。尽管ctDNA作为一种微创的肿瘤筛查和监测的生物标志物具有巨大的潜力,其在胃癌的应用中仍面临一些限制和挑战:①胃癌患者ctDNA释放量较低,需要使用高灵敏度的检测方法如二代测序技术,花费较高;②由于标本采集、靶点分离和检测等步骤复杂,需要指南共识以确保ctDNA数据在不同研究和平台之间的可靠性和可比性,避免产生假阴性或假阳性结果;③目前缺乏多中心、大规模和长期的临床试验,这使得临床操作和解释结果时存在一定的困难。

因此,ctDNA研究未来的方向包括开发更敏感和特异的检测方法、建立标准化的样品采集和分析协议,并将ctDNA数据与其他“组学”技术(如蛋白质组学和代谢组学)相结合,以提供更全面的癌症生物学图像并有助于确定新的治疗靶点。尽管ctDNA在胃癌的应用中存在一些局限和挑战,其潜在的益处是显而易见的。随着持续的研究和创新,ctDNA有望成为筛查、监测和管理胃癌诊疗有价值的标志物并最终改善患者的预后。

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