

细胞游离DNA在胆道癌诊断中的价值:一项meta分析

杨越^{1,2}, 何开举³, 宗家豪⁴, 杨自逸^{1,2}, 吴向嵩^{1,2}, 龚伟^{1,2}

1. 上海交通大学医学院附属新华医院普外科, 上海 200092; 2. 上海市胆道疾病研究重点实验室, 上海交通大学医学院胆道疾病研究所, 上海市胆道疾病研究中心, 上海 200092; 3. 上海交通大学医学院, 上海 200025; 4. 山东大学齐鲁医院消化内科, 济南 250012

[摘要] **目的**·采用meta分析方法全面评价细胞游离DNA (cell-free DNA, cfDNA) 对胆道癌 (biliary tract cancer, BTC) 的诊断准确性, 探究样本来源、检测方法以及截断值选择等对诊断效果的影响, 为更好开展临床应用提供依据。**方法**·检索8个中英文数据库中关于cfDNA对BTC诊断价值的前瞻性或回顾性研究, 截止时间为2023年4月。根据纳入和排除标准进行筛选和数据提取, 用Spearman秩相关分析评估阈值效应, 运用Cochran Q检验、 I^2 检验分析纳入研究间的异质性。拟合双变量混合效应模型, 计算总体敏感度、特异度和曲线下面积 (area under the curve, AUC) 等统计量, 判断诊断性能。同时, 基于研究类型、样本量大小、检测方法、样本来源和诊断参照标准进行亚组分析。**结果**·共纳入28项诊断性试验, 用诊断性试验准确性质量评价工具2 (Diagnostic Accuracy Studies Tool Version 2, QUADAS-2) 评价均属于中-高等质量研究, Spearman秩相关分析提示存在阈值效应, 合并统计量后求得敏感度 ($Sen_{合并}$) 为0.80 (95%CI 0.67~0.88), 特异度 ($Spe_{合并}$) 为0.96 (95%CI 0.92~0.98), 阳性似然比 (PLR_{合并}) 为22.7 (95%CI 9.4~55.2), 阴性似然比 (NLR_{合并}) 为0.21 (95%CI 0.12~0.36), 诊断比数比 (DOR_{合并}) 为108 (95%CI 31~374)。综合受试者工作特征 (summary receiver operating characteristic, SROC) 曲线的AUC为0.96 (95%CI 0.94~0.98), 提示cfDNA对BTC的诊断效能较高。亚组分析结果提示, 选择不同的检测方式和样本来源的准确度和敏感度有所不同。**结论**·cfDNA检测对诊断BTC敏感度和特异度较高, 适用于经影像学 and 常规肿瘤标志物初筛怀疑有恶性风险的患者, 但检测方法和样本来源的选择仍需进一步开展面向更广泛人群的临床研究来进一步规范。

[关键词] meta分析; 胆道癌; 细胞游离DNA; 诊断

[DOI] 10.3969/j.issn.1674-8115.2023.09.012 **[中图分类号]** R735.8 **[文献标志码]** A

Diagnostic value of cell-free DNA to biliary tract cancers: a meta-analysis

YANG Yue^{1,2}, HE Kaiju³, ZONG Jiahao⁴, YANG Ziyi^{1,2}, WU Xiangsong^{1,2}, GONG Wei^{1,2}

1. Department of General Surgery, Xinhua Hospital, Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Medicine, Shanghai 200092, China; 2. Shanghai Key Laboratory of Biliary Tract Disease Research, Research Institute of Biliary Tract Disease, Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Medicine, Shanghai Research Center of Tract Disease, Shanghai 200092, China; 3. Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Medicine, Shanghai 200025, China; 4. Department of Gastroenterology, Qilu Hospital of Shandong University, Jinan 250012, China

[Abstract] **Objective**·To comprehensively evaluate the diagnostic accuracy of cell-free DNA (cfDNA) to biliary tract cancer (BTC), and provide a basis for better clinical application. **Methods**·Clinical studies on the diagnostic value of cfDNA to BTC were collected by searching eight databases from inception to April 2023. The studies were selected according to the inclusion and exclusion criteria, and then data was extracted. The threshold effects were assessed with Spearman's rank correlation analysis, and heterogeneity among the included studies was analyzed by using Cochran's Q test and I^2 test. A bivariate mixed-effects model was fitted, and statistics such as overall sensitivity, specificity, and area under the curve (AUC) were calculated to determine the diagnostic performance. The subgroup analyses were carried out based on the study type, sample size, detection method, sample source, and diagnostic reference standard. **Results**·A total of 28 diagnosis tests were included, all of which were evaluated as medium-high quality by using Diagnostic Accuracy Studies Tool Version 2 (QUADAS-2). The presence of threshold effects was found by using the Spearman rank correlation analysis. The pooled sensitivity was 0.80 (95%CI 0.67~0.88), and specificity was 0.96 (95%CI 0.92~0.98), positive likelihood ratio (PLR) was 22.7 (95%CI 9.4~55.2), negative likelihood ratio (NLR) was 0.21 (95%CI 0.12~0.36), and diagnostic odds ratio (DOR) was 108 (95%CI 31~374), respectively. The AUC of the summary receiver operating

[基金项目] 国家自然科学基金 (81974371, 82172628); 上海交通大学医学院“双百人”项目 (20151001)。

[作者简介] 杨越 (1999—), 女, 硕士生; 电子信箱: yueyueyoung@126.com。

[通信作者] 龚伟, 电子信箱: gongwei@xinhumed.com.cn。

[Funding Information] National Natural Science Foundation of China (81974371, 82172628); “Two-hundred Talents” Program of Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Medicine (20151001)。

[Corresponding Author] GONG Wei, E-mail: gongwei@xinhumed.com.cn。

characteristic (SROC) curve was 0.96 (95%CI 0.94–0.98), demonstrating the high accuracy of cfDNA in the diagnosis of BTC. The results of subgroup analyses suggested that the accuracy and sensitivity of choosing different testing methods and sample sources varied. **Conclusion** The detection of cfDNA has high sensitivity and specificity in diagnosing BTC, and is suitable for the patients suspected to be malignant after screening with imaging tests and conventional tumor markers. However, the standardization and uniformity of detection methods and sample sources still need to be further standardized by conducting clinical studies on a wider population.

[Key words] meta-analysis; biliary tract cancer (BTC); cell-free DNA (cfDNA); diagnosis

胆道癌 (biliary tract cancer, BTC) 是指起源于胆道系统的恶性肿瘤, 通常被分为肝内胆管癌、肝门部胆管癌、远端胆管癌和胆囊癌^[1-2], 约占所有消化系统肿瘤的3%^[3]。近年来, 胆道癌尤其是肝内胆管癌的发病率和死亡率正在逐年上升^[4-6], 中国等亚洲国家胆管癌 (cholangiocarcinoma, CCA) 的发病率居全球前列^[7]。胆道癌被认为是预后较差的疾病, 对放射治疗和化学治疗不敏感, 手术切除是唯一具有治愈性意义的治疗方法^[1,8-9]。但因其病程早期通常无特异性症状且侵袭性极强, 超过65%的患者在诊断时就已失去根治性切除的机会, 5年存活率<5%^[9-10]。因此, 尽早识别胆道癌并与胆道良性疾病进行区分对于改善患者预后将有很大帮助。

目前, 胆道癌的初步诊断首选方法为超声检查, CT等其他影像学检查和CA19-9、CA125等肿瘤标志物等也有一定提示作用, 确诊以组织活检或细胞学检查为唯一依据^[11-12]。标本主要来源包括外科手术、内窥镜逆行胰胆管造影 (endoscopic retrograde cholangiopancreatography, ERCP) 术和超声引导下穿刺活检术等。此类传统活检的局限在于有创、时间长、对患者整体情况反映差及标本质量和数量不可控。近十年来, 液态活检 (liquid biopsy, LB) 技术在肿瘤学领域掀起了一场巨大变革, 它可提供DNA突变、基因拷贝数改变、转录组/蛋白质组分析、表观遗传改变、代谢物分析等信息, 将癌症诊断和监测引向无创时代^[13-15]。

细胞游离DNA (cell-free DNA, cfDNA) 是存在于细胞外的游离DNA分子, 可由正常细胞或肿瘤细胞释放。然而, 有研究^[16-18]发现癌症患者cfDNA水平明显高于健康人群。cfDNA的检测技术尚未完全标准化, 并且缺乏完整的分析共识, 目前主要包括聚合酶链式反应 (polymerase chain reaction, PCR)、实时荧光定量PCR (quantitative real-time PCR, qPCR)、数字PCR (digital PCR, dPCR)、甲基化特异度PCR (methylation-specific PCR, MSP) 和下一代

测序 (next-generation sequencing, NGS) 等^[13,17,19-20]。

cfDNA以微创方式提供肿瘤细胞的基因组信息^[5,21-23], 但目前胆道癌的诊断上的应用价值尚无定论, 且具体选择何种检测方法和样本意见仍不统一, 因此在临床开展不多。本研究拟检索目前国内外各项相关研究, 全面评价cfDNA对胆道癌的诊断准确性, 探讨样本来源、样本来源、检测方法以及截断值选择等对研究的影响, 以期为更好开展临床应用提供依据。

1 资料与方法

1.1 文献检索

在英文数据库PubMed、Web of Science、Embase、Cochrane Library以及中文数据库中国知网、万方数据知识服务平台、维普网和中国生物医学文献服务系统中系统检索有关cfDNA在胆道癌中的诊断试验研究, 检索时间设置为从建库至2023年4月。检索策略依据首选报告的条目 (preferred reporting items for systematic reviews and meta-analyses, PRISMA) 声明^[24]制定。搜索的关键词包括“cfDNA”“ctDNA”“液态活检”“胆道癌”“胆管癌”“胆囊癌”“诊断”“ROC曲线”“敏感度”和“特异度”等, 检索式涵盖主题词与自由词并依据各数据库的不同要求进行调整, 英文检索式与中文格式大致类似。

1.2 纳入和排除标准

纳入标准: ①研究目的为评价或探讨cfDNA对胆道癌诊断价值的前瞻性或回顾性研究。②诊断参照标准为可通过组织病理学确诊或被临床确诊的胆道癌。③能够直接或间接获得研究的真阳性 (true positive, TP)、假阳性 (false positive, FP)、真阴性 (true negative, TN)、假阴性 (false negative, FN) 病例的绝对数量或敏感度、特异度。④可以从出版物或刊物网站检索到完整的数据集, 并获得全文。

排除标准: ① 动物实验。② 样本量小于10例, 不具代表性。③ 非临床研究类文献, 如综述或meta分析、个案报道、病理报告、信件、会议摘要等。④ 研究提供的数据不完整, 或不能重建为2×2表。⑤ 来自同一研究团队、研究机构的研究, 并取得相同结果或反复试验报道的。

1.3 文献筛选及数据提取

文献检索工作由2位研究者独立完成, 在未达成共识时征询第三人意见, 并经过讨论得出最后决定。以系统评价和meta分析PRISMA为依据进行数据提取。提取的数据内容包含: ① 纳入研究的基本信息, 包括作者姓名、发表年份、国家、研究设计类型、对照类型、检测方法。② 实验组与对照组患者基本情况, 包括样本量、构成、年龄、性别等。③ 研究数据参数诊断四格表数据TP、FP、FN、TN或敏感度、特异度。

1.4 文献质量评价

采用诊断性试验准确性质量评价工具2 (Diagnostic Accuracy Studies Tool Version 2,

QUADAS-2) 评价标准进行文献质量评价, 就病例选择、待评价试验、金标准、病例流程和进展情况4个方面的17个问题做“是”“否”“不清楚”3种回答。系统评价和可视化使用Review Manager 5.3软件完成。

1.5 统计学方法

使用Stata 17.0软件进行统计分析。对敏感度与(1-特异度)进行Spearman秩相关分析, 以判断阈值效应是否存在^[24]。运用Cochran Q检验、I²检验分析纳入研究间的异质性。拟合双变量混合效应模型, 将统计量TP、TN、FP和FN进行合并, 计算总体敏感度、特异度、阳性似然比(positive likelihood ratio, PLR)、阴性似然比(negative likelihood ratio, NLR)、诊断优势比(diagnostic odds ratio, DOR)和曲线下面积(area under the curve, AUC), 以判断诊断性能。

2 结果

2.1 文献检索和筛选

文献检索和筛选过程如图1所示, 根据上述检索式初步检索到460篇文献。删除重复文献104篇。初

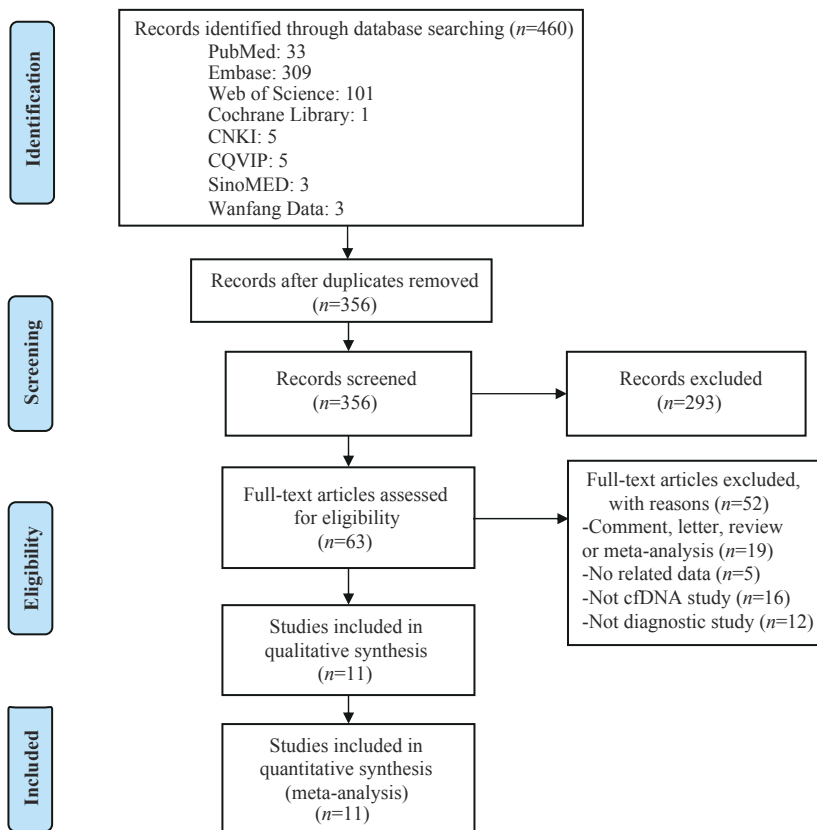


图1 文献筛选流程

Fig 1 Flow diagram of literature screening



步阅读题目、摘要与关键词后排除与主题不相关的293篇,然后仔细阅读剩余63篇文献全文,排除评论、信件、综述与meta分析19篇,非诊断性研究及非cfDNA研究28篇,无法获取完整数据的文献5篇。最终,我们筛选到了11篇文献,共纳入28项诊断性试验。其中1篇文献采用3种不同目标基因甲基化状态检测进行了8种组合,2篇文献采用2种不同基因组合进行ctDNA定量分析,5篇文献采用了2种不同

类型的对照人群。

2.2 纳入研究的基本特征及质量评价

纳入的各研究的基本信息如表1所示,均来自亚洲国家,共包括实验组1476例,对照组1152例。各项诊断性试验的四格表数据摘录如表2。文献质量评价采用QUADAS-2评价系统,结果如图2~3所示,纳入的多数研究都属于中-高等质量研究。

表1 纳入研究基本信息表

Tab 1 Basic characteristics of the included studies

Study	Study type	Country	Reference standard
HAN 2021 ^[25]	Prospective study	South Korea	BTC: pathological examination
HE 2023 ^[26]	Retrospective and prospective study	China	BTC: pathological examination; BBD: pathological examination and clinical follow-up; healthy population: pathological examination/clinical follow-up
HUA 2021 ^[27]	Prospective study	China	BTC: pathological examination
KINUGASA 2018 ^[28]	Prospective study	Japan	Pathological examination
KUMARI 2019 ^[29]	Retrospective study	India	Imaging/pathological examination
KUMARI 2022 ^[30]	Retrospective study	India	Imaging/pathological examination
KUMARI 2017 ^[31]	Retrospective study	India	Imaging/pathological examination
WANG 2021 ^[32]	Prospective study	China	Pathological examination
WASENANG 2019 ^[33]	Prospective study	Thailand	BTC: pathological examination
WINTACHAI 2021 ^[34]	Retrospective study	Thailand	Pathological examination
MO 2020 ^[35]	Retrospective study	China	BTC/BBD: imaging examination/pathological examination

Note: BBD—benign biliary disease.

表2 纳入研究数据提取

Tab 2 Collected data of the included studies

Study	Sample	Method	Sample size/n	Cut off	TP/n	FP/n	FN/n	TN/n
HAN 2021 ^[25]	Bile	ddPCR	46	1 500 copies·mL ⁻¹	20	0	22	4
	Plasma	ddPCR	20	60 copies·mL ⁻¹	3	0	13	4
HE 2023 ^[26]	Bile	qPCR	188	NA	74	0	21	93
	Bile	NGS	188	NA	80	2	15	91
HUA 2021 ^[27]	Serum	qPCR	158	403.65 ng·mL ⁻¹	78	2	5	73
	Serum	qPCR	153	113.82 ng·mL ⁻¹	83	0	0	70
	Serum	qPCR	158	364 ng·mL ⁻¹	76	7	7	68
	Serum	qPCR	153	96 ng·mL ⁻¹	83	0	0	70
KINUGASA 2018 ^[28]	Bile	NGS	43	NA	14	0	10	19
KUMARI 2019 ^[29]	Serum	qPCR	96	406.582 5 ng·mL ⁻¹	48	5	12	31
	Serum	qPCR	96	1 128.429 ng·mL ⁻¹	43	12	17	24
	Serum	qPCR	96	cfDNA integrity index: 0.356	47	7	13	29
	Serum	Methylated DNA Quantification Kit	96	Global DNA methylation: 0.713 5	33	18	27	18
KUMARI 2022 ^[30]	Serum	qPCR	75	251.2 ng·mL ⁻¹	50	0	0	25
KUMARI 2017 ^[31]	Serum	qPCR	56	372.92 ng·mL ⁻¹	30	0	4	22
	Serum	qPCR	51	218.55 ng·mL ⁻¹	34	0	0	17
WANG 2021 ^[32]	Plasma	Low-coverage WGS	47	Z -score in UCAD test 2.32	26	2	3	16
WASENANG 2019 ^[33]	Serum	MSP	80	OPCML 3.24%–50% methylation	32	4	8	36

Continued Tab

Study	Sample	Method	Sample size/n	Cut off	TP/n	FP/n	FN/n	TN/n
	Serum	MSP	80	HOXD9 1.56%–50% methylation	27	4	13	36
	Serum	MSP	80	HOXA9 1.56%–50% methylation	19	15	21	25
	Serum	MSP	80	OPCML, HOXD9 both methylated	25	0	15	40
	Serum	MSP	80	OPCML, HOXA9 both methylated	12	1	28	39
	Serum	MSP	80	HOXA9, HOXD9 both methylated	10	1	30	39
	Serum	MSP	80	OPCML, HOXA9, HOXD9 ≥2 markers methylated	29	2	11	38
	Serum	MSP	80	OPCML, HOXA9, HOXD9 all methylated	9	0	31	40
WINTACHAI 2021 ^[34]	Plasma	qPCR	92	0.217 5 ng·μL ⁻¹	55	1	7	29
	Plasma	qPCR	95	0.338 8 ng·μL ⁻¹	51	14	11	19
MO 2020 ^[35]	Plasma	qPCR	85	18.06 ng·μL ⁻¹	26	2	19	38

Note: ddPCR—droplet digital PCR; WGS—whole genome sequencing; UCAD—ultrasensitive chromosomal aneuploidy detector; NA—not applicable; OPCML—opioid binding protein cell adhesion molecule-like; HOXD9—homeobox D9; HOXA9—homeobox A9.

	Risk of bias				Applicability concerns		
	Patient selection	Index test	Reference standard	Flow and timing	Patient selection	Index test	Reference standard
HAN 2021	High	Unclear	Low	Low	Unclear	Low	Low
HE 2023	High	Low	Low	High	Unclear	Low	Low
HUA 2021	Unclear	Unclear	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
KINUGASA 2018	High	Unclear	Low	Low	Unclear	Low	Low
KUMARI 2017	Low	Unclear	Low	Unclear	Low	Low	Low
KUMARI 2019	Low	Unclear	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
KUMARI 2022	Low	Unclear	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
MO 2020	Low	Unclear	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
WANG 2021	Low	Unclear	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
WINTACHI 2021	High	Unclear	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
WQSENANG 2019	Unclear	Unclear	Low	Low	Unclear	Low	Low

图2 Cochrane 偏倚风险条目总结

Fig 2 Summary of the Cochrane’s risk of bias

2.3 meta 分析结果

2.3.1 阈值效应与异质性 Spearman 相关分析提示

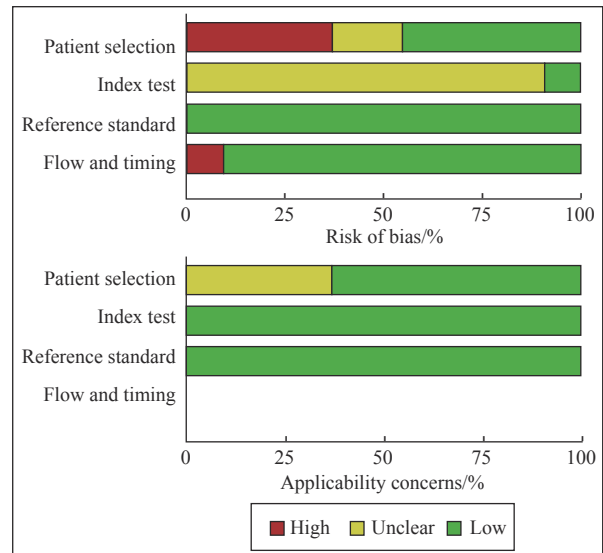


图3 Cochrane 偏倚风险百分图

Fig 3 Bar chart of the Cochrane’s risk of bias

敏感度与 (1-特异度) 呈正相关 ($r_s = -0.082, P = 0.677$), 提示存在阈值效应^[36], 并通过双变量混合效应模型进行分析得出 15% 的异质性可能是由于阈值效应导致的。双变量箱线图 (图 4) 显示有研究落在箱线图外。敏感度和特异度的 Q 检验 $P < 0.01$, 一致性指数 $I_{sen}^2 = 93.98\%, I_{spe}^2 = 93.07\%$, 同样也验证了各研究的异质性并非仅由随机误差所致。

2.3.2 合并统计量 对 28 项研究的 TP、TN、FP 和 FN 数据并合并, 求得敏感度 ($Sen_{合并}$) 为 0.80 (95%CI 0.67~0.88), 特异度 ($Spe_{合并}$) 为 0.96 (95%CI 0.92~0.98), 阳性似然比 ($PLR_{合并}$) 为 22.7

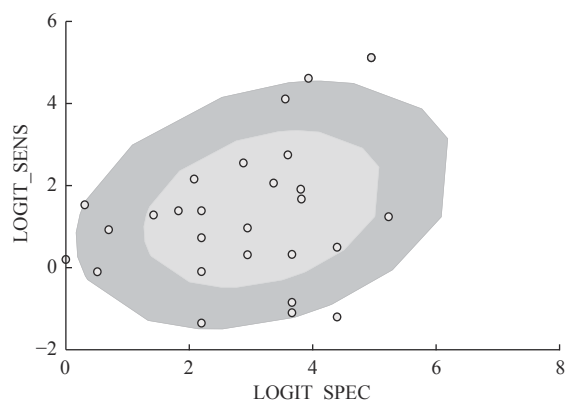


图4 双变量箱线图

Fig 4 Bivariable box plot

(95%CI 9.4~55.2), 阴性似然比 ($NLR_{合并}$) 为 0.21 (95%CI 0.12~0.36), 诊断比数比 ($DOR_{合并}$) 为 108 (95%CI 31~374)。中位敏感度 (Sen_{MED}) 和中位特异度 (Sep_{MED}) 都很高, 分别为 0.84 和 0.85, 表明测试具有很好的准确性。细胞游离 DNA 对胆道癌诊断的敏感度和特异度森林图如图 5 所示, PLR 和 NLR 的矩阵散点图如图 6 所示。图 7 显示, 综合受试者工作特征 (summary receiver operating characteristic, SROC) 的 AUC 为 0.96 (95%CI 0.94~0.98), 提示该方法有很好的诊断性能。

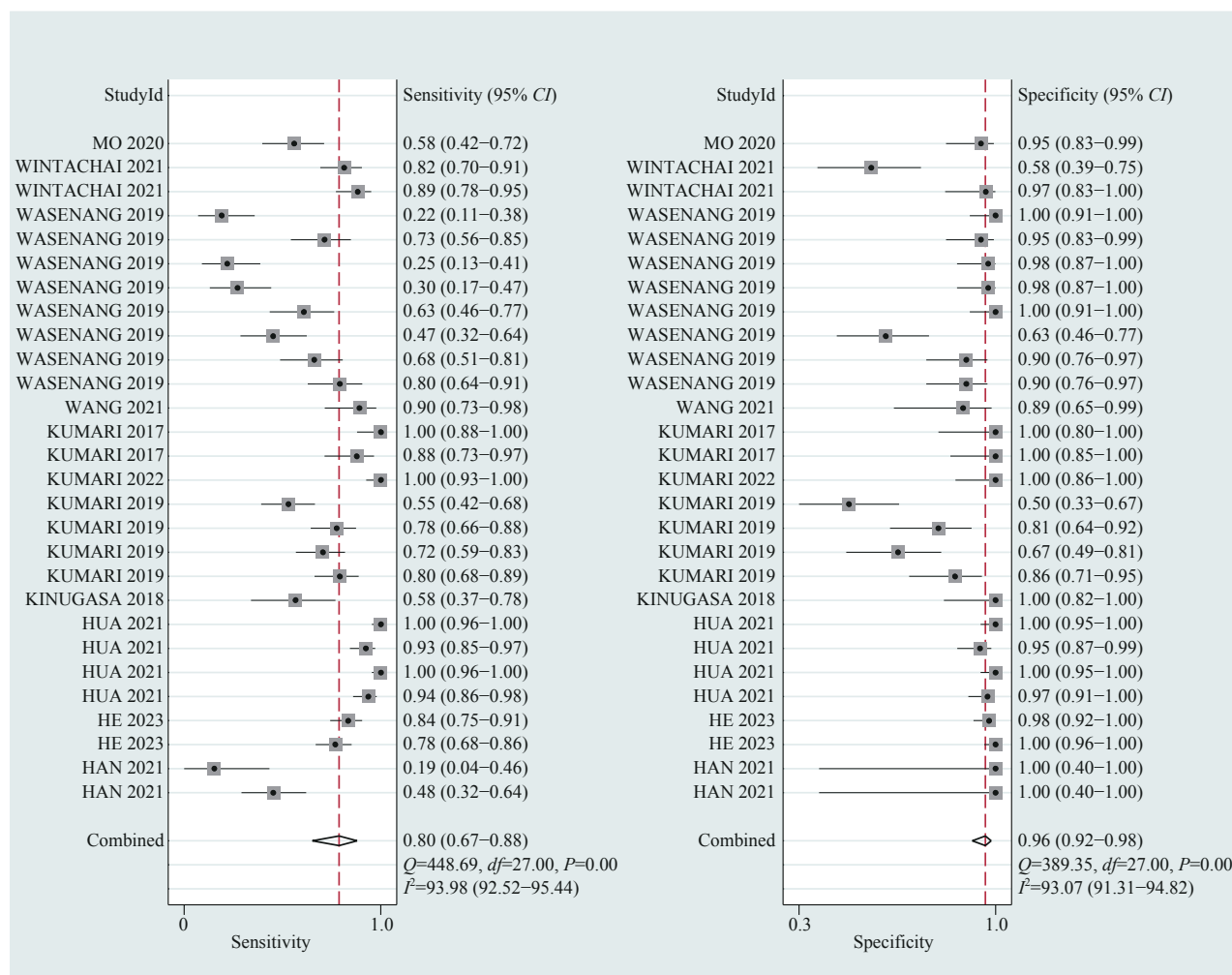


图5 敏感度和特异度森林图

Fig 5 Forest map of sensitivity and specificity

2.3.3 亚组分析 基于研究类型、样本量大小、检测方式、样本来源和诊断的参考标准分别进行亚组分析, 合并统计量结果如表 3。前瞻性研究与回顾性研究的敏感度存在一定差异, 分别为 0.74 (95%CI 0.51~0.89) 和 0.86 (95%CI 0.72~0.93)。从研究的样

本数量分析, 大样本研究时, cfDNA 的检测敏感度更高, 达到 0.89 (95%CI 0.78~0.95)。如图 8~10 所示, 检测方法来看, 不同方式的准确度和敏感度有所不同, 应用基因或突变分析、qPCR 技术和甲基化状态检测 cfDNA 的敏感度分别为 0.67 (95%CI 0.44~0.84)、

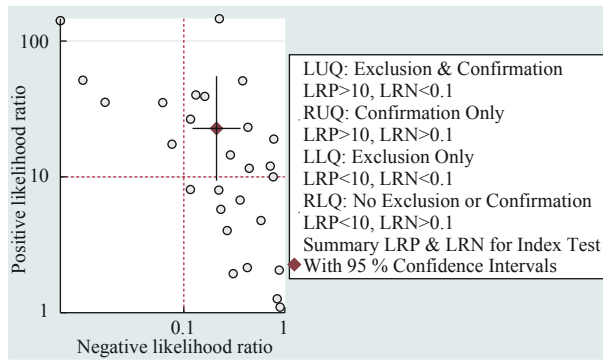


图6 PLR和NLR的矩阵散点图
Fig 6 Matrix scatter plot of PLR and NLR

0.94 (95%CI 0.84~0.98) 和 0.51 (95%CI 0.37~0.65), 特异度分别为 1.00 (95%CI 0.85~1.00)、0.98 (95%CI 0.88~1.00) 和 0.94 (95%CI 0.82~0.98)。结果提示应用 qPCR 检测 cfDNA 浓度对识别胆道癌的存在有较好提示作用; cfDNA 甲基化分析的 $AUC_{\text{合并}}=0.77$ (95%CI 0.73~0.81), 说明此种方法对胆道癌的诊断性能不高, 易产生漏诊。采用胆汁、血清和血浆样本时, 敏感度分别为 0.70 (95%CI 0.53~0.83)、0.85 (95%CI 0.66~0.94) 和 0.72 (95%CI 0.45~0.89), 特异度分别为 1.00 (95%CI 0.67~1.00)、0.97 (95%CI 0.90~0.99) 和 0.92 (95%CI 0.70~0.98)。以健康人

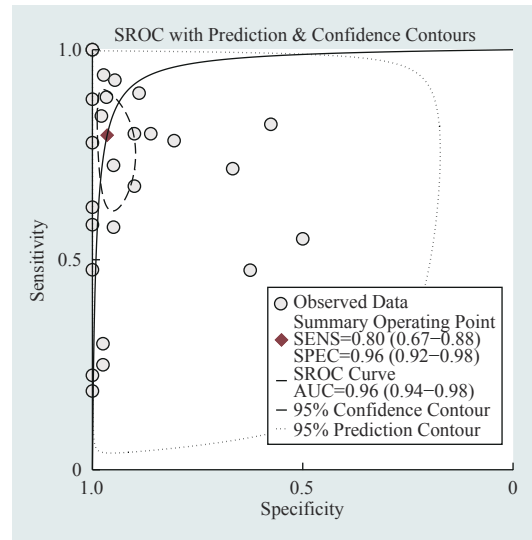


图7 SROC曲线
Fig 7 Summary receiver operating characteristic curves

群为对照时, 敏感度和特异度均较高, 分别为 1.00 (95%CI 0.70~1.00) 和 1.00 (95%CI 0.90~1.00); 以胆道良性疾病为对照时, 敏感度和特异度分别为 0.68 (95%CI 0.54~0.79) 和 0.96 (95%CI 0.92~0.99)。选用不同诊断参照标准时, cfDNA 诊断BTC的特异度的合并值均高于 0.9, 与统计量的总体合并结果一致。

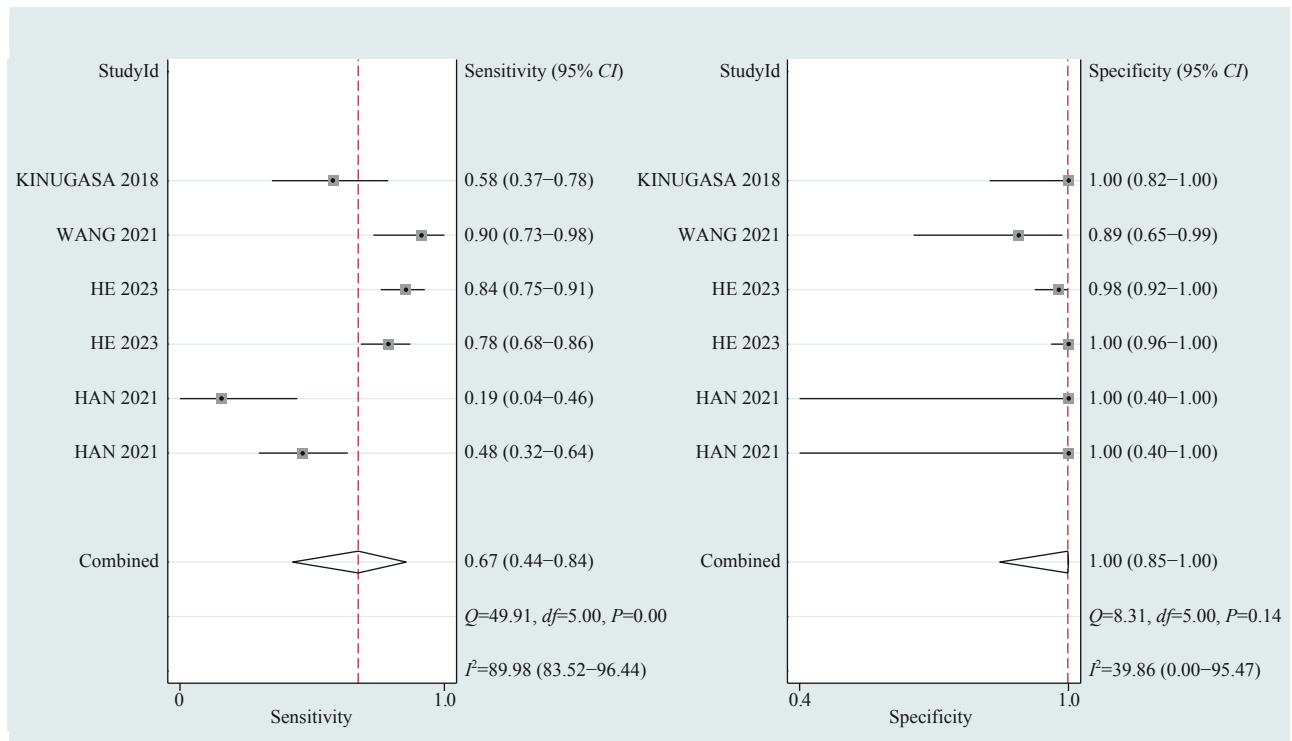


图8 应用基因或突变分析检测cfDNA对胆道癌诊断的敏感度和特异度森林图
Fig 8 Forest map of sensitivity and specificity of cfDNA for diagnosis of BTC by using gene or mutation analysis

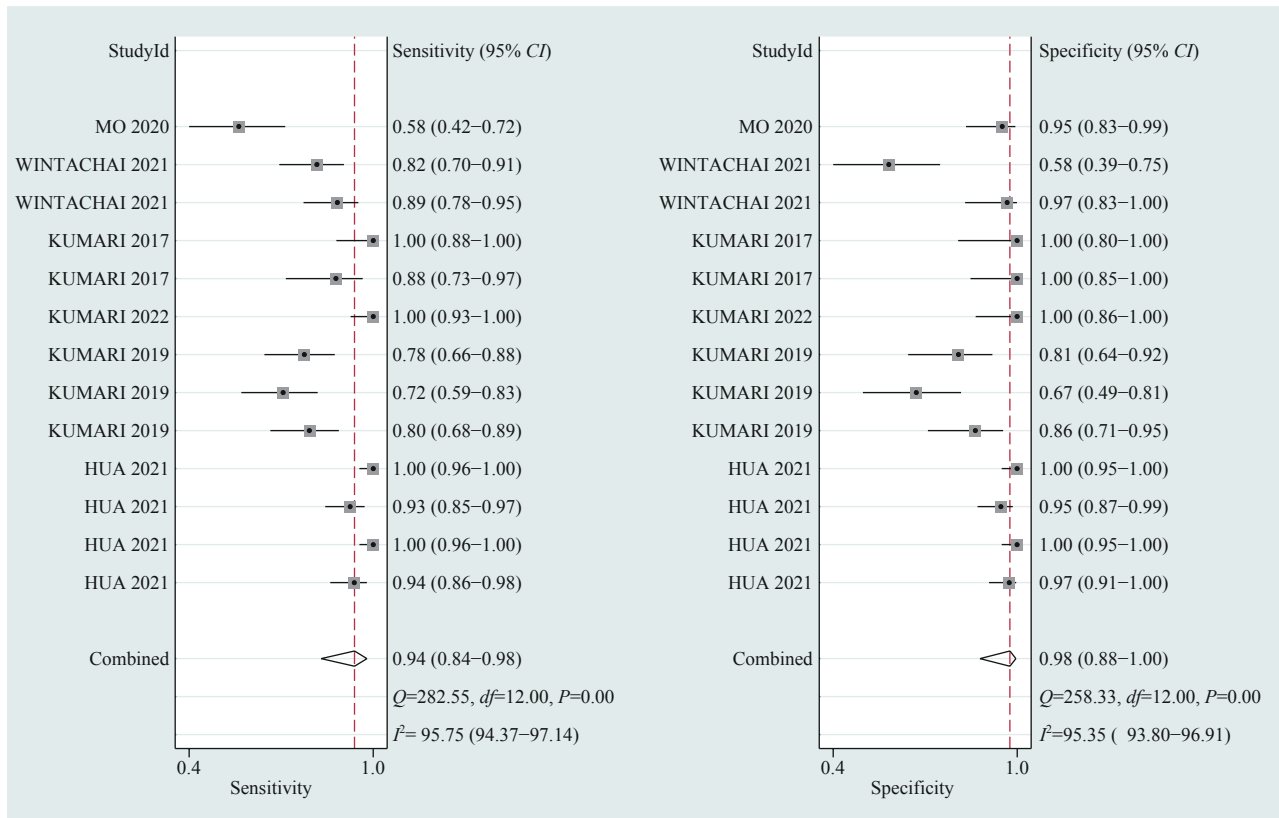


图9 应用qPCR检测cfDNA浓度对胆道癌诊断的敏感度和特异度森林图

Fig 9 Forest map of sensitivity and specificity of cfDNA for diagnosis of BTC by using qPCR

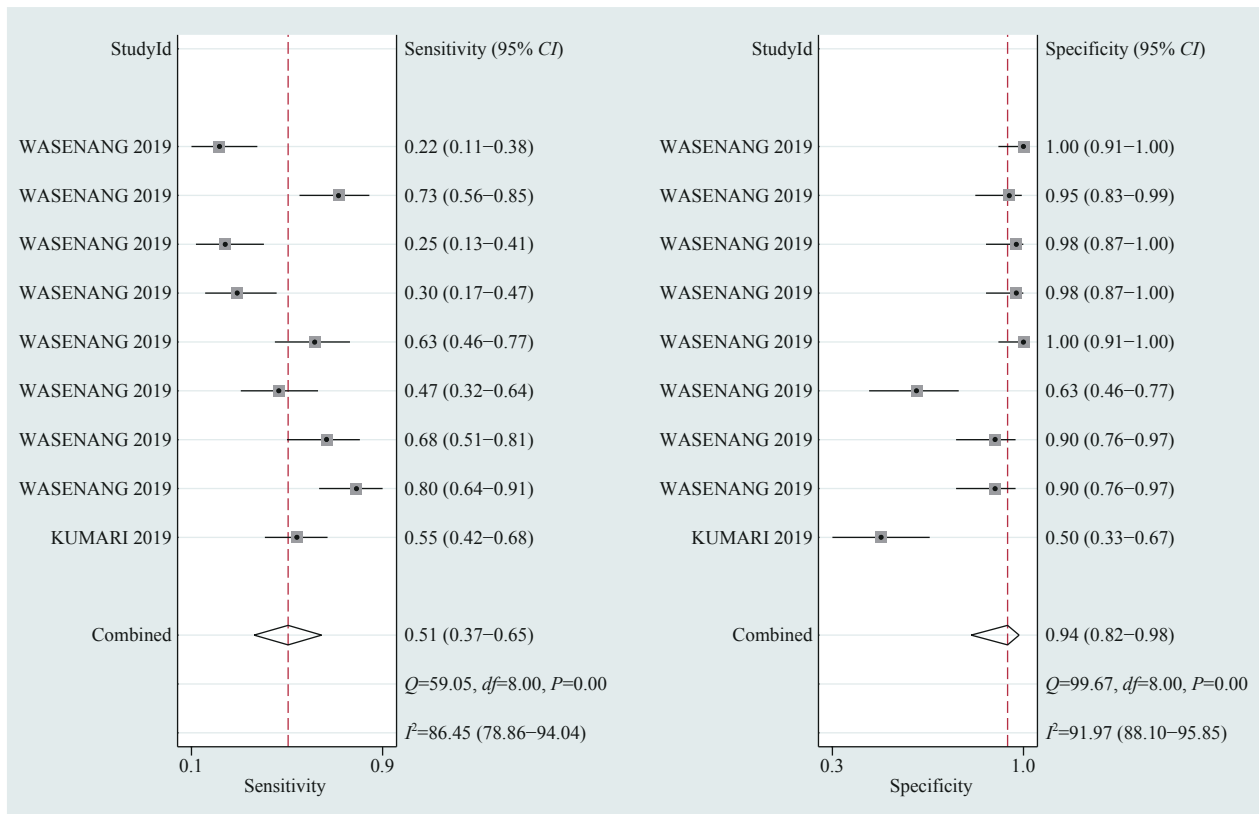


图10 应用甲基化检测分析cfDNA对胆道癌诊断的敏感度和特异度森林图

Fig 10 Forest map of sensitivity and specificity of cfDNA for diagnosis of BTC by using methylation analysis

表3 亚组分析

Tab 3 Subgroup analysis

Subgroup	Study/n	Sensitivity (95%CI)	Specificity (95%CI)	PLR	NLR	DOR	AUC (95%CI)
Overall	28	0.80 (0.67–0.88)	0.96 (0.92–0.98)	22.7	0.21	108	0.96 (0.94–0.98)
Study type							
Prospective study	16	0.74 (0.51–0.89)	0.97 (0.93–0.99)	26.1	0.26	99	0.97 (0.95–0.98)
Retrospective study	10	0.86 (0.72–0.93)	0.93 (0.73–0.99)	12.4	0.15	81	0.95 (0.92–0.96)
Sample size							
>90	12	0.89 (0.78–0.95)	0.96 (0.83–0.99)	20.9	0.12	179	0.96 (0.94–0.98)
≤90	16	0.67 (0.47–0.83)	0.97 (0.92–0.99)	23.9	0.34	71	0.96 (0.94–0.97)
Method							
Gene or mutation analysis	6	0.67 (0.44–0.84)	1.00 (0.85–1.00)	457.0	0.33	1 394	0.95 (0.93–0.97)
qPCR	13	0.94 (0.84–0.98)	0.98 (0.88–1.00)	38.8	0.06	644	0.99 (0.98–1.00)
Methylation analysis	9	0.51 (0.37–0.65)	0.94 (0.82–0.98)	9.2	0.52	18	0.77 (0.73–0.81)
Sample type							
Bile	4	0.70 (0.53–0.83)	1.00 (0.67–1.00)	511.0	0.30	1 690	0.95 (0.92–0.96)
Serum	19	0.85 (0.66–0.94)	0.97 (0.90–0.99)	24.7	0.16	156	0.97 (0.96–0.99)
Plasma	5	0.72 (0.45–0.89)	0.92 (0.70–0.98)	9.4	0.30	31	0.91 (0.88–0.93)
Control type							
Benign biliary disease	18	0.68 (0.54–0.79)	0.96 (0.92–0.99)	19.0	0.34	57	0.93 (0.91–0.95)
Healthy population	6	1.00 (0.70–1.00)	1.00 (0.90–1.00)	503.6	0.00	205 953	1.00 (0.99–1.00)
Reference standard							
Pathological examination	4	0.82 (0.69–0.90)	0.93 (0.60–0.99)	12.3	0.19	63	0.90 (0.87–0.93)
Pathological examination in BTC group	16	0.75 (0.52–0.89)	0.98 (0.94–0.99)	33.7	0.26	130	0.98 (0.96–0.99)
Clinical assessment	8	0.87 (0.66–0.96)	0.95 (0.68–0.99)	18.2	0.14	129	0.96 (0.94–0.97)

3 讨论

胆道癌起病隐匿,早期症状不明显,大部分患者在疾病晚期才被诊断,严重影响患者预后。近年来,随着精准医学的不断发展,液态活检技术在肿瘤学的应用越来越广泛,cfDNA检测已被证明对多种恶性肿瘤有较好的诊断价值^[16-18]。cfDNA在胆道癌的应用集中在分析与疾病预后的相关性以及复发监测上,针对BTC诊断应用的研究数量有限,且检测方式、检测指标和截断值选择等尚无统一标准,亟需规范的行业标准以加速临床转化。因此,为进一步评估循环游离DNA与胆道癌诊断之间的联系,本文对此领域现有的前瞻性和回顾性诊断试验展开meta分析。本文共纳入28项诊断性试验,入选实验组1 476例,对照组1 152例。采用QUADAS-2评价体系进行质量评价,提示纳入的文献均为中高等质量。

在全球范围内,BTC的发病率和死亡率呈现出东方世界明显高于西方世界的特点,主要与肝吸虫感染率等危险因素分布情况有一定相关性^[37-38]。本文纳入的28项研究均来自亚洲国家,也体现了东方

国家对于BTC早期诊断更加迫切的需求。cfDNA作为肿瘤领域的新兴技术,相关临床试验首先在这些BTC的高发国家开展。

目前,临床医师在诊断BTC时,超声、CT等影像学检查以及CA19-9、CA125等肿瘤标志物应用较多,这些方法的提示作用较好,但易出现假阳性结果,特异性稍差,可能还会导致患者焦虑情绪的产生。想要进行鉴别诊断需要进行组织活检,但因其有创且操作复杂,部分患者存有抵抗情绪。本研究中meta分析结果显示,在诊断BTC时cfDNA检测合并后的敏感度为0.80、特异度为0.96、SROC曲线下面积为0.96,提示cfDNA检测是一种诊断效能较高的诊断方法。与SINGH等^[39]发表的涵盖miRNA、cfDNA和CTC的meta分析结果相比,本研究只对cfDNA单种方法进行分析,尤其是在利用qPCR法时,表现出更突出的敏感度。因此,本项meta分析提示cfDNA检测因具有高敏感度和高特异度,创伤小,无辐射和二次致癌风险,可用于BTC的早期筛查和鉴别诊断。

敏感度和特异度2个统计量的异质性分析提示各

项研究存在较大异质性,可能由包括阈值效应和非阈值效应的其他因素导致。阈值效应约占总体一致性的15%,这也与现在cfDNA检测指标和阈值不固定、检测试剂盒和仪器使用并未统一的检测现状相吻合^[16]。根据样本量进行分层, I^2 仍>50%,提示异质性研究的病例数关系不大。综合各篇文献的研究设计,笔者认为纳入的28项诊断性试验存在临床异质性,可能与样本选择过程中存在选择倾向性、各项研究的疾病分级分期不明确且差异较大等因素相关。

本文对样本量大小、检测方式和样本来源进行亚组分析。在检测方式选择方面,利用qPCR技术检测cfDNA浓度的敏感度和特异度均较高,诊断准确性较高,且成本较低,适用于早期筛查。胆道癌的精准分期对治疗方法选择有较大影响^[40],cfDNA的浓度可提示肿瘤的全身负荷情况,便于临床医师精准地了解肿瘤的分级分期,准确评估手术的可行性,选择对患者更有利的治疗方案。使用NGS、WGS和ddPCR等方法进行基因或突变位点分析对BTC进行诊断敏感度不高(0.67),但特异度突出,提示该方法用于排除诊断效果较好。同时,NGS和WGS等方法可以提供肿瘤的突变的位置信息,为临床医师的个性化用药提供依据。纳入的诊断性试验关注的突变位点主要有KRAS^[25-26,28]、TP53^[26,28]和SMAD4^[26,28]等。3种检测方法中,甲基化检测效能最低,为避免漏诊和误诊,在诊断过程中需结合其他辅助检查结果。

对比以健康人群和良性胆道疾病人群为对照的情况,结果显示cfDNA的检测可以较为明确地区分健康人群和胆道癌患者。根据样本来源进行亚组分析的结果显示对血清进行检测的灵敏度和特异度最高,其他2种样本可能因为研究数量有限未能展现出更高的敏感度,但胆汁检测的高特异度提示该种样本可以作为“中间环节”,在影像学难以判断良恶性时进行区分,用于降低筛查手段的假阳性风险,避免不必要的手术。如能利用cfDNA检测的特有优势,将其与CA19-9等其他肿瘤标志物以及超声和CT等影像学检查相结合,构建合适的临床诊断模型,或可有更大临床应用价值。

本项研究的优势在于:首先,聚焦于cfDNA的诊断价值,为该技术在胆道癌诊断的应用提供了有利数据支持;其次,本研究进行了细致的亚组分析,分析不同检测方式、样本来源和对照类型对诊断效应的影响,提示检测方式需根据不同的临床情景进行选择。然而,因为纳入试验的数量和质量的限制,本文仍存在下述局限性:第一,未能将胆道癌的分型做具体区分;第二,研究大多未指出金标准和cfDNA检测之间的明确时间距离,因此在对结果进行分析时无法考虑时间异质性;第三,纳入分析的研究多以健康人群和胆道良性疾病患者为对照,无其他系统恶性肿瘤纳入分析,因此无法为全人群大规模筛查提供更高级别的证据。

综上所述,cfDNA检测对诊断胆道癌敏感度和特异度较高,临床应用前景广泛。特别是其高度特异性提示该方法可以用于经影像学和常规肿瘤标志物初筛怀疑有恶性风险的人群。同时,建立规范且统一的检测方法和截断值以及选择合理的样本来源十分重要,仍需要开展面向更广泛人群的大样本、多中心研究来进一步验证。

利益冲突声明/Conflict of Interests

所有作者声明不存在利益冲突。

All authors disclose no relevant conflict of interests.

作者贡献/Authors' Contributions

杨越、杨自逸进行文章的构思与设计;何开举、杨越、杨自逸进行文献检索、筛选,数据收集;杨越、宗家豪进行统计学分析与结果可视化;杨越、何开举撰写论文;龚伟、吴向嵩负责文章的总体质量控制。所有作者均已阅读并同意了被提交的稿件。

The study was designed by YANG Yue and YANG Ziyi. The literature searching, screening and data collection were carried out by HE Kaiju, YANG Yue and YANG Ziyi. The statistical analysis and result visualization were carried out by YANG Yue and ZONG Jiahao. The manuscript was drafted and edited by YANG Yue and HE Kaiju. The presence work was carried out under the supervision of GONG Wei and WU Xiangsong. All the authors have read and approved the final manuscript.

• Received: 2023-05-30

• Accepted: 2023-08-22

• Published online: 2023-09-28

参·考·文·献

[1] VALLE J W, LAMARCA A, GOYAL L, et al. New horizons for precision medicine in biliary tract cancers[J]. *Cancer Discov*, 2017,

7(9): 943-962.

[2] RIZVI S, KHAN S A, HALLEMEIER C L, et al. Cholangiocarcinoma:

- evolving concepts and therapeutic strategies[J]. *Nat Rev Clin Oncol*, 2018, 15(2): 95-111.
- [3] BENAVIDES M, ANTÓN A, GALLEGO J, et al. Biliary tract cancers: seom clinical guidelines[J]. *Clin Transl Oncol*, 2015, 17(12): 982-987.
- [4] EVERHART J E, RUHL C E. Burden of digestive diseases in the United States Part III : liver, biliary tract, and pancreas[J]. *Gastroenterology*, 2009, 136(4): 1134-1144.
- [5] WAN J C M, MASSIE C, GARCIA-CORBACHO J, et al. Liquid biopsies come of age: towards implementation of circulating tumour DNA[J]. *Nat Rev Cancer*, 2017, 17(4): 223-238.
- [6] VALLE J W, KELLEY R K, NERVI B, et al. Biliary tract cancer[J]. *Lancet*, 2021, 397(10272): 428-444.
- [7] BANALES J M, MARIN J J G, LAMARCA A, et al. Cholangiocarcinoma 2020: the next horizon in mechanisms and management[J]. *Nat Rev Gastroenterol Hepatol*, 2020, 17(9): 557-588.
- [8] ROA J C, GARCÍA P, KAPOOR V K, et al. Gallbladder cancer[J]. *Nat Rev Dis Primers*, 2022, 8(1): 69.
- [9] 梁后杰, 秦叔逵, 沈锋, 等. CSCO胆道系统肿瘤诊断治疗专家共识(2019年版)[J]. *临床肿瘤学杂志*, 2019, 24(9): 828-838.
- LIANG H J, QIN S K, SHEN F et al. Expert consensus on diagnosis and treatment of CSCO biliary system tumors (2019 edition)[J]. *Chinese Clinical Oncology*, 2019, 24(9): 828-838.
- [10] VALLE J W. Advances in the treatment of metastatic or unresectable biliary tract cancer[J]. *Ann Oncol*, 2010, 21(Suppl 7): vii345-vii348.
- [11] BLECHACZ B, KOMUTA M, ROSKAMS T, et al. Clinical diagnosis and staging of cholangiocarcinoma[J]. *Nat Rev Gastroenterol Hepatol*, 2011, 8(9): 512-522.
- [12] 蔡晨, 龚伟. 胆囊癌辅助治疗的研究进展[J]. *外科理论与实践*, 2021, 26(2): 167-170.
- CAI C, GONG W. Study on gallbladder cancer adjuvant therapy[J]. *Surgery Theory and Practice*, 2021, 26(2): 167-170.
- [13] LONE S N, NISAR S, MASOODI T, et al. Liquid biopsy: a step closer to transform diagnosis, prognosis and future of cancer treatments[J]. *Mol Cancer*, 2022, 21(1): 79.
- [14] CROWLEY E, DI NICOLANTONIO F, LOUPAKIS F, et al. Liquid biopsy: monitoring cancer-genetics in the blood[J]. *Nat Rev Clin Oncol*, 2013, 10(8): 472-484.
- [15] ALIX-PANABIÈRES C, PANTEL K. Liquid biopsy: from discovery to clinical application[J]. *Cancer Discov*, 2021, 11(4): 858-873.
- [16] LEON S A, SHAPIRO B, SKLAROFF D M, et al. Free DNA in the serum of cancer patients and the effect of therapy[J]. *Cancer Res*, 1977, 37(3): 646-650.
- [17] VESSIES D C L, GREUTER M J E, VAN ROOIJEN K L, et al. Performance of four platforms for KRAS mutation detection in plasma cell-free DNA: ddpcr, Idylla, COBAS z480 and BEAMing[J]. *Sci Rep*, 2020, 10(1): 8122.
- [18] HEITZER E, ULZ P, GEIGL J B. Circulating tumor DNA as a liquid biopsy for cancer[J]. *Clin Chem*, 2015, 61(1): 112-123.
- [19] OLMEDILLAS-LÓPEZ S, GARCÍA-ARRANZ M, GARCÍA-OLMO D. Current and emerging applications of droplet digital PCR in oncology[J]. *Mol Diagn Ther*, 2017, 21(5): 493-510.
- [20] IGNATIADIS M, SLEDGE G W, JEFFREY S S. Liquid biopsy enters the clinic: implementation issues and future challenges[J]. *Nat Rev Clin Oncol*, 2021, 18(5): 297-312.
- [21] SIRAVEGNA G, MUSSOLIN B, VENESIO T, et al. How liquid biopsies can change clinical practice in oncology[J]. *Ann Oncol*, 2019, 30(10): 1580-1590.
- [22] SHEN N J, ZHANG D D, YIN L, et al. Bile cell-free DNA as a novel and powerful liquid biopsy for detecting somatic variants in biliary tract cancer[J]. *Oncol Rep*, 2019, 42(2): 549-560.
- [23] 央茂, 李永盛, 吴文广, 等. 液态活检技术在胆道肿瘤诊治中的应用进展[J]. *中华肝胆外科杂志*, 2021, 27(6): 472-476.
- YANG M, LI Y S, WU W G et al. Application progress of liquid biopsy in the diagnosis and treatment of biliary tract cancer[J]. *Chinese Journal of Hepatobiliary Surgery*, 2021, 27(6): 472-476.
- [24] LIBERATI A, ALTMAN D G, TETZLAFF J, et al. The PRISMA statement for reporting systematic reviews and meta-analyses of studies that evaluate healthcare interventions: explanation and elaboration[J]. *BMJ*, 2009, 339: b2700.
- [25] HAN J Y, AHN K S, KIM T S, et al. Liquid biopsy from bile-circulating tumor DNA in patients with biliary tract cancer[J]. *Cancers*, 2021, 13(18): 4581.
- [26] HE S, ZENG F X, YIN H H, et al. Molecular diagnosis of pancreatobiliary tract cancer by detecting mutations and methylation changes in bile samples[J]. *EclinicalMedicine*, 2023, 55: 101736.
- [27] HUA Y, SUN F Y, HU F, et al. Diagnostic value of quantification of circulating free DNA for gall bladder cancer using a chemiluminescence DNA biosensor system based on DNA G-quadruplex/hemin enzyme[J]. *Transl Oncol*, 2021, 14(1): 100928.
- [28] KINUGASA H, NOUSO K, AKO S, et al. Liquid biopsy of bile for the molecular diagnosis of gallbladder cancer[J]. *Cancer Biol Ther*, 2018, 19(10): 934-938.
- [29] KUMARI S, HUSAIN N, AGARWAL A, et al. Diagnostic value of circulating free DNA integrity and global methylation status in gall bladder carcinoma[J]. *Pathol Oncol Res*, 2019, 25(3): 925-936.
- [30] KUMARI S, MISHRA S, HUSAIN N, et al. Comparison of circulating DNA in malignant neoplasia from diverse locations: investigating a diagnostic role[J]. *Indian J Pathol Microbiol*, 2022, 65(1): 93-99.
- [31] KUMARI S, TEWARI S, HUSAIN N, et al. Quantification of circulating free DNA as a diagnostic marker in gall bladder cancer[J]. *Pathol Oncol Res*, 2017, 23(1): 91-97.
- [32] WANG X, FU X H, QIAN Z L, et al. Non-invasive detection of biliary tract cancer by low-coverage whole genome sequencing from plasma cell-free DNA: a prospective cohort study[J]. *Transl Oncol*, 2021, 14(1): 100908.
- [33] WASENANG W, CHAIYARIT P, PROUNGVITAYA S, et al. Serum cell-free DNA methylation of OPCML and HOXD9 as a biomarker that may aid in differential diagnosis between cholangiocarcinoma and other biliary diseases[J]. *Clin Epigenetics*, 2019, 11(1): 39.
- [34] WINTACHAI P, LIM J Q, TECHASEN A, et al. Diagnostic and prognostic value of circulating cell-free DNA for cholangiocarcinoma[J]. *Diagnostics*, 2021, 11(6): 999.
- [35] 莫迪, 李梦雨, 李华洋, 等. CA199、CEA及cfDNA的联合检测对胆管癌的辅助诊断价值[J]. *牡丹江医学院学报*, 2020, 41(3): 18-21.
- MO D, LI M Y, LI H Y, et al. Diagnostic value of combined detection of CA, CEA and plasma cell-free DNA for cholangiocarcinoma[J]. *Journal of Mudanjiang Medical University*, 2020, 41(3): 18-21.
- [36] 张俊, 徐志伟, 李克. 诊断性试验 meta 分析的效应指标评价[J]. *中国循证医学杂志*, 2013, 13(7): 890-895.
- ZHANG J, XU Z W, LI K. Evaluation on the effect index of diagnostic test[J]. *Chinese Journal of Evidence-Based Medicine*, 2013, 13(7): 890-895.
- [37] KHAN S A, TAVOLARI S, BRANDI G. Cholangiocarcinoma: epidemiology and risk factors[J]. *Liver Int*, 2019, 39(S1): 19-31.
- [38] ARRICHIELLO G, NACCA V, PARAGLIOLA F, et al. Liquid biopsy in biliary tract cancer from blood and bile samples: current knowledge and future perspectives[J]. *Explor Target Antitumor Ther*, 2022, 3(3): 362-374.
- [39] SINGH A, DWIVEDI A. Circulating miRNA and cell-free DNA as a potential diagnostic tool in early detection of biliary tract cancer: a meta-analysis[J]. *Biomarkers*, 2022, 27(5): 399-406.
- [40] 龚伟, 吴向嵩, 杨自逸. 胆囊癌转化治疗模式探索与思考[J]. *中国实用外科杂志*, 2022, 42(2): 163-166.
- GONG W, WU X S, YANG Z Y. Exploring novel therapeutic approach for advanced gallbladder cancer[J]. *Chinese Journal of Practical Surgery*, 2022, 42(2): 163-166.