

# 糖尿病通过下调 GPX4 引起视网膜光感受器细胞的损伤及其机制

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**【摘要】** 目的 探讨糖尿病视网膜光感受器中谷胱甘肽过氧化物酶 4(GPX4) 的表达变化, 及其与视网膜光感受器细胞损伤的有关机制。方法 收集 2018—2021 年武汉市红十字会同济医院遗体(器官)捐献登记及眼角膜接收站 8 名年龄匹配男性遗体捐献者眼后段组织, 其中非糖尿病捐献者和糖尿病捐献者各 4 名, 分别作为对照组和糖尿病组。选取健康 SPF 级 8 周龄雄性 C57BL/6 小鼠 14 只, 采用随机数表法将小鼠随机分为糖尿病组和对照组, 每组 7 只, 其中糖尿病组小鼠按照 50 mg/kg 剂量腹腔内注射链脲佐菌素, 连续 5 d, 对照组不做特殊处理。将小鼠光感受器细胞 661W 分为晚期糖基化终末产物(AGEs)组和对照组, 其中 AGEs 组采用 100  $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$  AGEs 处理 24 h 模拟糖尿病损伤, 对照组不做特殊处理。采用苏木精-伊红染色法观察各组人及小鼠视网膜光感受器细胞外节形态; 采用免疫荧光染色法观察人及小鼠视网膜中胶质纤维酸性蛋白(GFAP)、视紫红质(Rhodopsin)和 GPX4 表达; 采用 Western blot 法检测小鼠视网膜中 GFAP、Rhodopsin 和 GPX4 的表达及 661W 细胞中 GPX4 的表达; 采用细胞计数试剂盒 8(CCK8)法检测各组 661W 细胞活力; 采用 TBA 法检测小鼠视网膜及细胞中丙二醛(MDA)浓度; 采用羟胺法检测小鼠视网膜及细胞中超氧化物歧化酶(SOD)活性。结果 苏木精-伊红染色结果显示, 与对照组比较, 糖尿病组人和小鼠视网膜光感受器细胞外节变形或断裂。GFAP 荧光信号主要出现在人和小鼠内层视网膜, 着染细胞为梭形或多角形, 与胶质细胞形状吻合, 糖尿病组视网膜中 GFAP 荧光信号较对照组增强。Rhodopsin 仅在光感受器细胞外节层表达, 边界清晰, GPX4 在全视网膜均有表达, 光感受器细胞外节层信号较强; 糖尿病组 Rhodopsin 和 GPX4 荧光信号较对照组减弱。糖尿病组人和小鼠 GFAP 相对表达量均明显高于对照组, Rhodopsin 和 GPX4 相对表达量均明显低于对照组, 差异均有统计学意义(均  $P < 0.05$ )。AGEs 组细胞活力值明显低于对照组, 差异有统计学意义( $t = 13.490, P < 0.001$ )。AGEs 组 GPX4 蛋白相对表达量为  $0.42 \pm 0.12$ , 明显低于对照组的  $1.00 \pm 0.04$ , 差异有统计学意义( $t = 9.041, P < 0.001$ )。糖尿病组小鼠视网膜组织和 AGEs 组细胞中 MDA 浓度高于对照组, SOD 活性值低于对照组, 差异均有统计学意义(均  $P < 0.05$ )。结论 糖尿病能降低视网膜光感受器细胞中 GPX4 水平, 引起氧化-抗氧化系统失衡, 可能是糖尿病引起视网膜光感受器细胞损伤的机制。

**【关键词】** 视网膜光感受器细胞; 谷胱甘肽过氧化物酶; 脂质过氧化; 糖尿病

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## Retinal photoreceptor cell damage caused by diabetes through down-regulation of glutathione peroxidase 4 and its mechanism

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**[Abstract]** **Objective** To investigate the changes of glutathione peroxidase 4 (GPX4) in retinal photoreceptor cells, and the related mechanism correlated with retinal photoreceptor cell damage. **Methods** The posterior segment tissues of 8 age-matched male donors were collected from the Body (Organ) Donation Register and Corneal Receiving Station of Tongji Hospital of Wuhan Red Cross from 2018 to 2021, including 4 non-diabetic donors and 4 diabetic donors. The tissues were divided into diabetes group and control group according to their donors. A total of 14 healthy SPF 8-week-old male C57BL/6 mice were selected and randomly divided into diabetes group and control

group by the random number method, with 7 mice in each group. The mice in diabetes group were intraperitoneally injected with streptozotocin at a dose of 50 mg/kg for 5 days, and no intervention was given to mice in control group. Mouse photoreceptor cells 661W were divided into advanced glycation end products (AGEs) group and control group. AGEs group was treated with 100  $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$  AGEs for 24 hours to simulate diabetic injury, and no intervention was given to control group. The outer segment morphology of retinal photoreceptors in human and mouse retinas was observed by hematoxylin-eosin staining. The expressions of glial fibrillary acidic protein (GFAP), rhodopsin and GPX4 in human and mouse retinas were detected by immunofluorescence staining. The expressions of GFAP, rhodopsin and GPX4 in mouse retina and the expression of GPX4 in 661W cells were determined by Western blot. The activity of 661W cells was detected by cell counting kit-8 (CCK8) method. The concentration of malondialdehyde (MDA) in mouse retina and cells was detected by TBA method. The activity of superoxide dismutase (SOD) in mouse retina and cells was detected by hydroxylamine assay. The use of human tissues was approved by the Ethics Committee of Tongji Hospital, Tongji Medical College of Huazhong University of Science and Technology (No. TJ-C20230301). The animal experiments were conducted with reference to the Standards Guide for the Care and Use of Laboratory Animals of the National Institutes of Health, and the study protocol was approved by the Experimental Animal Ethics Committee of Tongji Hospital, Tongji Medical College of Huazhong University of Science and Technology (No. TJH-2016001).

**Results** Hematoxylin-eosin staining showed that retinal photoreceptor outer segments were deformed or broken in diabetic donors and diabetic mice compared with control groups. GFAP fluorescent signal mainly appeared in the inner retina of human and mice, and the stained cells were spindle or polygonal, which was consistent with the shape of glial cells. The retinal GFAP fluorescent signal of diabetic tissue and mouse groups was stronger than that of respective control groups. Rhodopsin was only expressed in the outer segment layer of photoreceptors with clear boundaries, and GPX4 was expressed in the whole retina with strong signal in the outer segment layer of photoreceptors. The fluorescent signals of rhodopsin and GPX4 in diabetic tissue and mouse groups were weaker than those in respective control groups. The relative expressions of GFAP were significantly higher and the relative expressions of rhodopsin and GPX4 were significantly lower in diabetic tissue and mouse groups than in respective control groups (all at  $P < 0.05$ ). The cell viability of AGEs group was significantly lower than that of control group ( $t = 13.490, P < 0.001$ ). The relative expression of GPX4 protein in AGEs group was  $0.42 \pm 0.12$ , which was significantly lower than  $1.00 \pm 0.04$  in control group ( $t = 9.041, P < 0.001$ ). MDA concentration was higher and SOD activity was lower in retinal tissue of diabetic mice and AGEs group than those in respective control groups, and the differences were statistically significant (all at  $P < 0.05$ ).

**Conclusions** Diabetes can reduce the GPX4 level in retinal photoreceptor cells and cause the imbalance of oxidation-antioxidant system, which may be the mechanism of the damage to retinal photoreceptor cells caused by diabetes.

[Key words] Photoreceptor cells; Glutathione peroxidase; Lipid peroxidation; Diabetes mellitus

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传统观点认为,微血管病变是糖尿病视网膜病变(diabetic retinopathy, DR)的主要病理机制,然而,越来越多证据表明,糖尿病视网膜神经退行性变(diabetic retinal neurodegeneration, DRN)同样贯穿 DR 整个发病过程<sup>[1]</sup>。DRN 以神经细胞丢失和胶质增生为特征<sup>[2]</sup>。有研究表明,58%的糖尿病患者在未出现可见的视网膜血管病变时,已可见视网膜电生理异常,即发生了 DRN<sup>[3]</sup>。部分糖尿病患者出现视网膜电图 a 波潜伏期延长,是光感受器细胞受损的特征<sup>[4]</sup>。DR 相关损伤模型研究发现, caspase 通路抑制剂 Z-VAD 不能逆转损伤引起的 TUNEL 阳性细胞及蛋白水解增加,提示可

能存在凋亡以外的机制参与光感受器细胞损伤<sup>[5]</sup>。氧化应激损伤是糖尿病损害视网膜的重要机制之一,4 种经典的代谢异常参与了糖尿病引起的视网膜氧化损伤,包括蛋白激酶 C 途径、多元醇途径、己糖胺途径和晚期糖基化终末产物(advanced glycation end products, AGEs)途径<sup>[6]</sup>。光感受器细胞富含多不饱和脂肪酸<sup>[7]</sup>,同时耗氧量巨大,可产生多种脂质代谢产物,如丙二醛(malondialdehyde, MDA)。如何清除 MDA,维持视网膜光感受器细胞氧化-抗氧化系统平衡值得进一步探讨。谷胱甘肽过氧化物酶 4(glutathione peroxidase 4, GPX4)是细胞内重要的抗氧

化酶<sup>[8]</sup>, GPX4 表达升高能增强超氧化物歧化酶 (superoxide dismutase, SOD) 活性, 加快清除脂质过氧化产物<sup>[9]</sup>, 从而维持氧化应激平衡。糖尿病条件下视网膜膜中 GPX4 水平的变化尚不清楚。本研究拟探讨糖尿病视网膜光感受器中 GPX4 的表达变化, 及其与糖尿病视网膜光感受器细胞损伤有关的机制。

## 1 材料与方法

### 1.1 材料

**1.1.1 人供体眼来源** 筛选并收集 2018—2021 年武汉市红十字会同济医院遗体(器官)捐献登记及眼角膜接收站年龄及患病时间相匹配的男性遗体捐献志愿者眼后段组织, 其中非糖尿病捐献者与糖尿病捐献者各 4 例, 分别作为对照组和糖尿病组。所有捐献者均排除有青光眼等影响视网膜、视神经病史者。对照组和糖尿病组平均年龄分别为 (76.50 ± 9.04) 岁和 (82.25 ± 12.00) 岁; 糖尿病组糖尿病患病时长为 (11.75 ± 4.65) 年。所有捐献者均根据《赫尔辛基宣言》中规定的原则事先提供知情同意书, 本研究经华中科技大学同济医学院附属同济医院伦理委员会批准(批文号:TJ-C20230301)。

**1.1.2 实验动物及分组** 健康 SPF 级 8 周龄雄性 C57BL/6 小鼠 14 只, 购自江苏集萃药康生物科技股份有限公司[许可证号: SCXK(苏)2018-0008], 饲养于华中科技大学同济医学院附属同济医院动物实验中心, SPF 级动物房内饲养, 正常饮食。实验参照美国国立卫生研究院《实验动物护理和使用指南》标准进行, 动物实验设计经华中科技大学同济医学院附属同济医院实验动物伦理委员会批准(批文号:TJH-2016001)。

**1.1.3 离体细胞来源** 小鼠光感受器细胞株 661W 购自上海通派生物细胞库。

**1.1.4 主要试剂及仪器** 链脲佐菌素(美国 Sigma-Aldrich 公司); 胎牛血清、DMEM 基础培养基(美国 Gibco 公司); 100 IU/ml 青霉素(商品单位)、100 μg/ml 链霉素、10 μmol/ml hepes(武汉塞维尔公司); AGEs(bs-1158P, 北京博奥森公司); 兔多克隆胶质纤维酸性蛋白(glial fibrillary acidic protein, GFAP) 抗体(Ab7260)、兔单克隆视紫红质(Rhodopsin) 抗体(Ab221664)(英国 Abcam 公司); 兔单克隆 GPX4 抗体(AF7020)、细胞计数试剂盒 8(cell counting kit-8, CCK8)(C0037)(江苏碧云天生物技术有限公司); 鼠多克隆 β-actin 抗体(AC004)、辣根过氧化物酶标记山羊抗兔 IgG 抗体(AS014)、辣根过氧化物酶标记山羊抗鼠 IgG 抗体(AS003)(武汉爱博泰克公司); MDA 试

剂盒(A003-1)、SOD 试剂盒(A001-1-1)(南京建成公司)。荧光显微镜(日本 Olympus 公司); 多功能酶标仪(美国 ThermoFisher 公司)。

### 1.2 方法

**1.2.1 动物分组及处理** 采用随机数表法将小鼠随机分为糖尿病组和对照组, 每组 7 只。糖尿病组小鼠按照 50 mg/kg 剂量腹腔内注射链脲佐菌素, 连续 5 d, 注射结束后 3 d 进行血糖监测, 血糖 > 16.7 mmol/L 即认为造模成功, 对照组不做特殊处理。12 周后采用断颈法处死小鼠, 冰上取眼球。

**1.2.2 细胞分组及处理** 661W 细胞置于含 5% 胎牛血清、100 IU/ml 青霉素、100 μg/ml 链霉素、10 μmol/ml hepes 的 DMEM 基础培养基中, 37 °C、5% CO<sub>2</sub> 的湿润环境培养。将细胞分为 AGEs 组和对照组, 其中 AGEs 组采用 100 μg/ml AGEs 处理 24 h 模拟糖尿病损伤, 对照组不做特殊处理。

**1.2.3 苏木精-伊红染色法观察各组人及小鼠视网膜光感受器细胞外节形态** 人眼后段或小鼠眼球组织浸泡在眼球固定液(含 68% 乙醇、10% 中性甲醛、5% 醋酸的水溶液)中 24 h, 石蜡包埋切片, 56 °C 烘箱中加热 30 min 后, 浸泡于二甲苯和梯度乙醇溶液中脱蜡至水, 苏木素染液染核 2 min, 自来水冲洗, 1% 盐酸乙醇分化, 0.6% 氨水返蓝, 流水冲洗, 伊红染液中染色 2 min, 自来水冲洗, 将切片浸泡在梯度乙醇与二甲苯中脱水, 中性树脂封片, 白光显微镜下观察视网膜光感受器细胞外节形态。

**1.2.4 免疫荧光染色检测人及小鼠视网膜中 GFAP、GPX4 及 Rhodopsin 的表达** 组织切片及脱蜡至水同上, 将切片浸泡于柠檬酸/柠檬酸钠缓冲液中高温高压抗原修复, 采用 10% 普通驴血清封闭, 0.5% Tritton 常温孵育 1 h, 4 °C 孵育一抗(GFAP: 1: 500; Rhodopsin: 1: 500; GPX4: 1: 100) 过夜, 磷酸盐缓冲液(phosphate buffer saline, PBS)清洗后, 再行荧光标记二抗室温孵育 1 h, DAPI 染色细胞核, 抗荧光淬灭剂封片, 通过荧光显微镜观察, 采用 ImageJ 软件进行荧光信号定量。

**1.2.5 Western blot 法检测小鼠视网膜中 GFAP、Rhodopsin 和 GPX4 的表达及 661W 细胞中 GPX4 的表达** 将新鲜分离的视网膜组织(体积比 1: 10)或细胞沉淀(体积比 1: 12)加入 RIPA 裂解液(含蛋白酶/磷酸酶抑制剂), 超声匀浆并在冰上孵育 20 min, 4 °C、12 000×g 离心 15 min, 取上清, 按体积比 1: 4 加入上样缓冲液, 100 °C 煮沸 7 min 充分变性。样本经 SDS-PAGE 电泳分离, 电转至 PVDF 膜, 5% 牛血清蛋白室温封闭 1 h, 一抗稀释液(GPX4: 1: 1 000; Rhodopsin:



1:5 000;  $\beta$ -actin:1:20 000) 4 °C 孵育过夜, TBST 缓冲液清洗后, 辣根过氧化物酶标记二抗(1:10 000) 室温孵育 1 h, ECL 曝光成像, 采用 ImageJ 软件分析条带灰度值, 以  $\beta$ -actin 为内参, 计算目的蛋白相对表达量。实验重复 3 次。

**1.2.6 CCK8 法检测各组细胞活力** 661W 细胞以约 5 000 个/孔的密度接种于 96 孔板中, 每组设 5 个复孔, 经 24 h 常规培养或 100  $\mu$ g/ml AGEs 处理 24 h 后, 按照 CCK8 试剂盒说明书检测细胞活力, 多功能酶标仪检测 450 nm 处吸光度 (absorbance, A) 值。细胞活力值 = 实验组 A 值 / 对照组 A 值  $\times$  100%。

**1.2.7 TBA 法检测小鼠视网膜及细胞中 MDA 浓度、羟胺法检测小鼠视网膜和细胞中 SOD 活性** 每份视网膜样本加入 120  $\mu$ l RIPA 裂解液, 超声匀浆并在冰上孵育 20 min, 4 °C、12 000  $\times$ g 离心 15 min, 取上清待用。661W 细胞除去培养基后用 PBS 润洗 3 次, 约  $1 \times 10^6$  个细胞加入 100  $\mu$ l RIPA 裂解液, 用细胞刮刮下细胞, 1.5 ml EP 管收集细胞悬液, 超声匀浆后冰上孵育 20 min, 4 °C、12 000  $\times$ g 离心 15 min, 取上清待用。TBA 法检测上清样本 MDA 浓度, 按试剂盒说明书操作, 多功能酶标仪检测 532 nm 处 A 值; 羟胺法检测 SOD 活性, 按试剂盒说明书操作, 多功能酶标仪检测 550 nm 处 A 值。MDA 浓度 = (测定孔 A 值 - 对照孔 A 值) / (标准孔 A 值 - 空白孔 A 值)  $\times$  标准品浓度  $\times$  样品总稀释倍数。SOD 活性 = (对照孔 A 值 - 测定孔 A 值) / 对照孔 A 值  $\times 2 \times$  样品总稀释倍数。

### 1.3 统计学方法

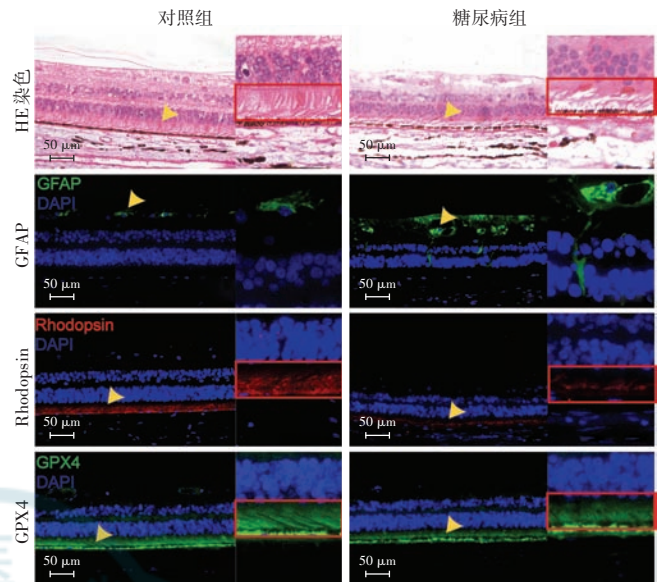
采用 SPSS 20.0 统计学软件进行统计分析。计量资料数据经 Shapiro-Wilk 检验证实呈正态分布, 以  $\bar{x} \pm s$  表示, 2 个组间各指标比较采用独立样本 *t* 检验。P < 0.05 为差异有统计学意义。

## 2 结果

### 2.1 糖尿病组与对照组人视网膜光感受器变化

**2.1.1 糖尿病组与对照组人视网膜光感受器形态学变化** 糖尿病组人视网膜光感受器细胞外节层疏松变形, 部分发生水肿或断裂; 对照组视网膜光感受器细胞外节结构完整、排列有序 (图 1)。

**2.1.2 糖尿病组与对照组人视网膜光感受器中 GFAP、Rhodopsin 和 GPX4 蛋白表达量比较** GFAP 荧光信号主要出现在人内层视网膜, 着染细胞为梭形或多角形, 与胶质细胞形状吻合, 糖尿病组视网膜 GFAP 荧光信号较对照组增强 (图 1)。糖尿病组 GFAP 相对表达量较对照组明显增加, 差异有统计学意义 (*t* =



**图 1 糖尿病组与对照组人视网膜光感受器变化比较** ( $\times 20$ , 标尺 = 50  $\mu$ m) 糖尿病组光感受器细胞外节层疏松变形, 部分发生水肿或断裂, 对照组视网膜光感受器细胞外节结构完整、排列有序; GFAP 荧光信号主要出现在人内层视网膜, 着染细胞为梭形或多角形, 与胶质细胞形状吻合, 糖尿病组视网膜 GFAP 荧光信号较对照组增强; Rhodopsin 仅在光感受器细胞外节层表达, 边界清晰, 糖尿病组 Rhodopsin 荧光信号较对照组减弱; GPX4 在全视网膜均有表达, 光感受器细胞外节层信号较强, 糖尿病组 GPX4 荧光信号较对照组减弱。右侧图为左侧黄色箭头所示处放大, 红框标记视网膜光感受器细胞外节 GFAP: 胶质纤维酸性蛋白; Rhodopsin: 视紫红质; GPX: 谷胱甘肽过氧化物酶

**Figure 1 Comparison of changes in human retinal photoreceptors between diabetes group and control group** ( $\times 20$ , bar = 50  $\mu$ m) The outer layer of photoreceptors in diabetes group was loose and deformed with edema or fracture in some cells, while the outer segment of photoreceptors in the control group was complete and orderly. The fluorescent signal of GFAP mainly appeared in the inner retina, and the stained cells were spindle or polygonal, which was consistent with the shape of glial cells. The fluorescent signal of GFAP in the retina of diabetes group was stronger than that in the control group. Rhodopsin was only expressed in the outer segment layer of photoreceptor with clear boundary. The fluorescent signal of rhodopsin in diabetes group was weaker than that in control group. GPX4 is expressed in the whole retina, and the signal of photoreceptor extracellular layer was stronger. The fluorescent signal of GPX4 in diabetes group was weaker than that in control group. The image on the right was the enlarged area marked by the yellow arrow on the left, and the red rectangles marked the extracellular segment of the retinal photoreceptor GFAP: glial fibrillary acidic protein; GPX: glutathione peroxidase

3.669, *P* = 0.002) (表 1)。

Rhodopsin 仅在光感受器细胞外节层表达, 边界清晰; GPX4 在全视网膜均有表达, 光感受器细胞外节层信号较强; 糖尿病组 Rhodopsin 和 GPX4 荧光信号较对照组减弱 (图 1)。糖尿病组视网膜中 Rhodopsin 和 GPX4 相对表达量均较对照组明显减少, 差异均有统计学意义 (*t* = 17.810、18.100, 均 *P* < 0.001) (表 1)。

**表 1 糖尿病组与对照组人视网膜 GFAP、Rhodopsin 和 GPX4 蛋白相对表达量比较 ( $\bar{x} \pm s$ )**

**Table 1 Comparison of the expressions of GFAP, rhodopsin and GPX4 in human retina between diabetes and control groups ( $\bar{x} \pm s$ )**

| 组别         | 样本量 | GFAP      | Rhodopsin | GPX4      |
|------------|-----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 对照组        | 4   | 1.00±0.33 | 1.00±0.08 | 1.00±0.05 |
| 糖尿病组       | 4   | 5.71±2.71 | 0.26±0.03 | 0.57±0.01 |
| <i>t</i> 值 |     | 3.669     | 17.810    | 18.100    |
| <i>P</i> 值 |     | 0.002     | <0.001    | <0.001    |

注: (独立样本 *t* 检验) GFAP: 胶质纤维酸性蛋白; Rhodopsin: 视紫红质; GPX: 谷胱甘肽过氧化物酶

Note: (Independent samples *t*-test) GFAP: glial fibrillary acidic protein; GPX: glutathione peroxidase

## 2.2 糖尿病组与对照组小鼠视网膜光感受器变化

### 2.2.1 糖尿病组与对照组小鼠视网膜光感受器形态学变化

与对照组比较, 糖尿病组视网膜光感受器细胞外节层疏松变形, 部分断裂(图 2)。

### 2.1.2 糖尿病组与对照组小鼠视网膜中 GFAP、Rhodopsin 和 GPX4 蛋白表达量比较

GFAP 荧光信号主要出现在小鼠内层视网膜, 着染细胞为梭形或多角形, 与胶质细胞形状吻合, 糖尿病组视网膜 GFAP 荧光信号较对照组增强(图 2)。糖尿病组 GFAP 相对表达量明显高于对照组, 差异有统计学意义 ( $t = 5.400, P = 0.002$ ) (图 3, 表 2)。

Rhodopsin 仅在光感受器细胞外节层表达, 边界清晰; GPX4 在全视网膜均有表达, 光感受器细胞外节层信号较强。与对照组相比, 糖尿病组视网膜中 Rhodopsin、GPX4 荧光信号显著减弱(图 2)。糖尿病组小鼠视网膜 Rhodopsin 和 GPX4 相对表达量较对照组明显减少, 差异均有统计学意义 ( $t = 5.914, P = 0.004; t = 3.668, P = 0.021$ ) (图 3, 表 2)。

### 2.3 AGEs 组与对照组细胞活力值及 GPX4 蛋白相对表达量比较

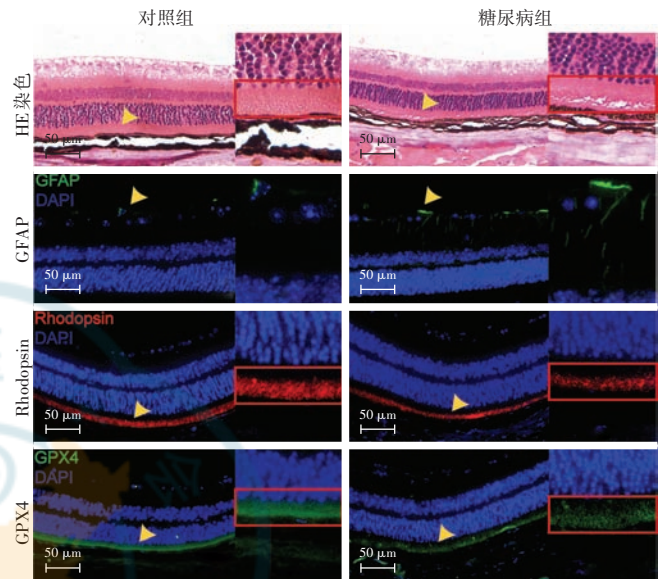
AGEs 组细胞活力值为 ( $63.56 \pm 2.50$ )%, 明显低于对照组的 ( $100.00 \pm 6.12$ )%, 差异有统计学意义 ( $t = 13.490, P < 0.001$ ) (图 4)。AGEs 组 GPX4 蛋白表达条带明显弱于对照组。AGEs 组 GPX4 蛋白相对表达量为  $0.42 \pm 0.12$ , 明显低于对照组的  $1.00 \pm 0.04$ , 差异有统计学意义 ( $t = 9.041, P < 0.001$ ) (图 5)。

### 2.4 各组小鼠视网膜组织及 661W 细胞中 MDA 浓度和 SOD 活性比较

#### 2.4.1 各组小鼠视网膜组织中 MDA 浓度和 SOD 活性比较

糖尿病组小鼠视网膜组织中 MDA 浓度为 ( $3.41 \pm 0.72$ ) nmol/ml, 高于对照组的 ( $1.64 \pm 0.46$ ) nmol/ml, 差异有统计学意义 ( $t = 4.109, P = 0.006$ ) (图 6A)。糖尿

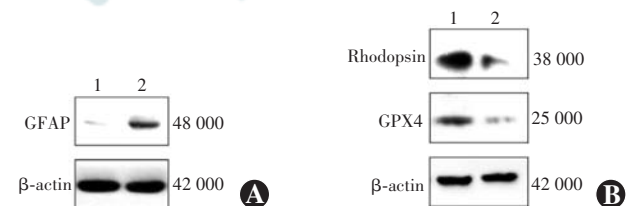
病组小鼠视网膜组织中 SOD 活性值为 ( $111.37 \pm 71.36$ )  $\mu\text{mol}/(\text{min} \cdot \text{L})$ , 低于对照组的 ( $275.50 \pm 47.33$ )  $\mu\text{mol}/(\text{min} \cdot \text{L})$ , 差异有统计学意义 ( $t = 3.834, P = 0.009$ ) (图 6B)。



**图 2 糖尿病组与对照组小鼠视网膜光感受器变化比较 ( $\times 20$ , 标尺 =  $50 \mu\text{m}$ )** 与对照组相比, 糖尿病组光感受器细胞外节层萎缩变形, 部分断裂; 视网膜内层 GFAP 荧光信号增强; 视网膜 Rhodopsin 和 GPX4 荧光信号减弱。右侧图为左侧黄色箭头所示处放大, 红框标记视网膜光感受器细胞外节 GFAP: 胶质纤维酸性蛋白; Rhodopsin: 视紫红质; GPX: 谷胱甘肽过氧化物酶

**Figure 2 Comparison of changes in mouse retinal photoreceptors between diabetes group and control group ( $\times 20$ , bar =  $50 \mu\text{m}$ )**

Compared with the control group, the outer segment layer of photoreceptors in diabetes group was atrophied, deformed and partially broken, with fluorescent signal of GFAP enhanced in the inner retina. Retinal rhodopsin and GPX4 immunofluorescence staining were weakend. The image on the right was the enlarged area marked by the yellow arrow on the left, and the red rectangles marked the extracellular segment of the retinal photoreceptor GFAP: glial fibrinous acidic protein; GPX: glutathione peroxidase



**图 3 Western blot 法检测小鼠视网膜中 GFAP、Rhodopsin、GPX4 蛋白表达** A: GFAP 糖尿病组 GFAP 蛋白表达条带明显增强 B: Rhodopsin 和 GPX4 糖尿病组 Rhodopsin 和 GPX4 蛋白表达条带较对照组明显减弱 1: 对照组 2: 糖尿病组 GFAP: 胶质纤维酸性蛋白; Rhodopsin: 视紫红质; GPX: 谷胱甘肽过氧化物酶

**Figure 3 Expression of GFAP, rhodopsin and GPX4 protein in retina detected by Western blot** A: GFAP The protein band of GFAP expression was significantly enhanced in diabetes group compared with control group B: Rhodopsin and GPX4 The protein bands of rhodopsin and GPX4 expressions were significantly weakened in diabetes group compared with control group 1: control group 2: diabetes group GFAP: glial fibrinous acidic protein; GPX: glutathione peroxidase

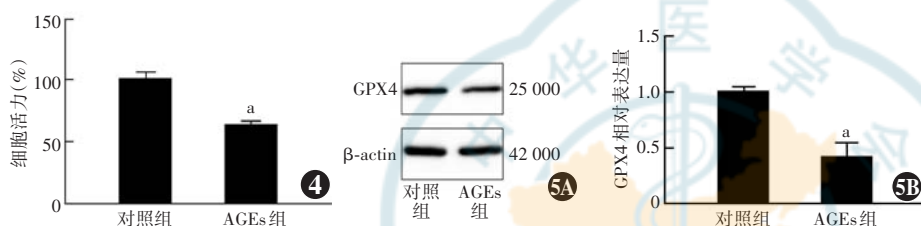


**表 2 糖尿病组与对照组小鼠视网膜中 GFAP、Rhodopsin 和 GPX4 蛋白相对表达量比较 ( $\bar{x}\pm s$ )**  
**Table 2 Comparison of the expressions of GFAP, rhodopsin and GPX4 in mouse retina between diabetes and control groups ( $\bar{x}\pm s$ )**

| 组别         | 样本量 | GFAP      | Rhodopsin | GPX4      |
|------------|-----|-----------|-----------|-----------|
| 对照组        | 7   | 1.00±0.22 | 1.00±0.13 | 1.00±0.31 |
| 糖尿病组       | 7   | 4.81±1.39 | 0.50±0.06 | 0.30±0.11 |
| <i>t</i> 值 |     | 5.400     | 5.914     | 3.668     |
| <i>P</i> 值 |     | 0.002     | 0.004     | 0.021     |

注: (独立样本 *t* 检验) GFAP: 胶质纤维酸性蛋白; Rhodopsin: 视紫红质; GPX: 谷胱甘肽过氧化物酶

Note: (Independent samples *t*-test) GFAP: glial fibrillary acidic protein; GPX: glutathione peroxidase



**图 4 AGEs 组与对照组细胞活力值比较** 与对照组相比,  $^aP < 0.05$  (独立样本 *t* 检验,  $n = 6$ )

AGEs: 晚期糖基化终末产物 **图 5 AGEs 组与对照组细胞中 GPX4 蛋白相对表达量比较** A: GPX4 蛋白表达电泳图 AGEs 组 GPX4 蛋白表达条带明显弱于对照组 B: GPX4 蛋白相对表达量比较 与对照组相比,  $^aP < 0.05$  (独立样本 *t* 检验,  $n = 6$ ) GPX: 谷胱甘肽过氧化物酶; AGEs: 晚期糖基化终末产物

**Figure 4 Comparison of cell viability between AGEs group and control group** Compared with control group,  $^aP < 0.05$  (Independent samples *t*-test,  $n = 6$ ) AGEs: advanced glycosylation end products

**Figure 5 Comparison of GPX4 protein expression levels between AGEs group and control group** A: Electrophoretogram of GPX4 protein expression Protein band of GPX4 was significantly weakened in AGEs group compared with control group B: Comparison of GPX4 protein relative expression Compared with control group,  $^aP < 0.05$  (Independent samples *t*-test,  $n = 6$ ) GPX: glutathione peroxidase; AGEs: advanced glycosylation end products

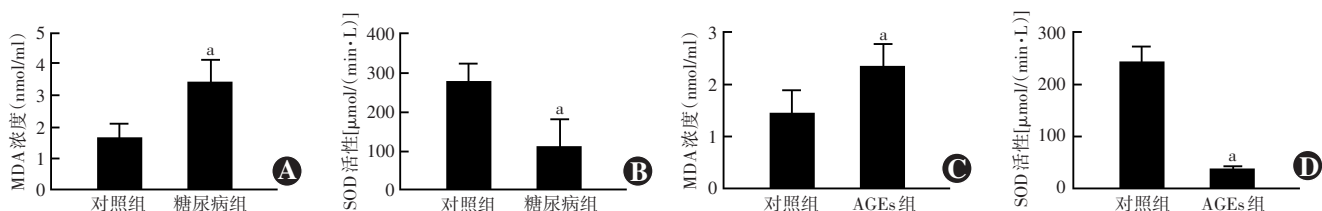
**2.4.2 各组 661W 细胞中 MDA 浓度和 SOD 活性比较** AGEs 组 MDA 浓度为  $(2.32 \pm 0.44)$  nmol/ml, 高于对照组的  $(1.41 \pm 0.48)$  nmol/ml, 差异有统计学意义 ( $t = 2.787, P = 0.032$ ) (图 6C)。AGEs 组 SOD 活性值为  $(35.27 \pm 6.37)$   $\mu\text{mol}/(\text{min} \cdot \text{L})$ , 明显低于对照组的

$(240.02 \pm 31.22)$   $\mu\text{mol}/(\text{min} \cdot \text{L})$ , 差异有统计学意义 ( $t = 12.850, P < 0.001$ ) (图 6D)。

### 3 讨论

本研究观察糖尿病遗体捐献者及小鼠的视网膜, 发现糖尿病能引起光感受器细胞外节变形及断裂, 光感受器细胞标志物 Rhodopsin 水平下降。通过检测糖尿病遗体捐献者视网膜、糖尿病小鼠视网膜及 AGEs 诱导损伤 661W 细胞中的 GPX4 水平, 发现糖尿病损伤能引起 GPX4 水平下调。同时观察到糖尿病损伤条件下, 抗氧化物 SOD 活性降低, 脂质过氧化产物 MDA 浓度升高。据此推测, GPX4 表达下调及氧化-抗氧化系统失衡可能是糖尿病引起视网膜光感受器细胞损伤的机制。

氧化应激损伤已被证实广泛发生于糖尿病视网膜损伤中, 由自由基的形成和清除之间的不平衡引起, 氧自由基是其中常见且效应显著的分子, 也可称为活性氧簇 (reactive oxygen species, ROS) [10]。视网膜因其特殊的生理结构, 长期暴露于能产生 ROS 的可见光或紫外线中, 同时, 视网膜光感受器细胞外节中富含多不饱和脂肪酸 (poly-unsaturated fatty acids, PUFAs)。人视网膜光感受器外节的主要 PUFAs 包括二十二碳六烯酸、花生四烯酸和油酸, 分别约占 PUFAs 总量的 50%、8% 和 10%, PUFAs 易受 ROS 攻击而发生变性 [5], 在干性年龄相关性黄斑变性 (age-related macular degeneration, AMD) 中, 能观察到视网膜脂质过氧化的发生 [11]。在 DR 中, ROS 的增加和高糖引起的代谢障碍似乎互为因果, 高糖引起的代谢



**图 6 各组小鼠视网膜组织及 661W 细胞中 MDA 浓度和 SOD 活性比较** A: 各组小鼠视网膜组织中 MDA 浓度比较 B: 各组小鼠视网膜组织中 SOD 活性比较 C: 各组 661W 细胞中 MDA 浓度比较 D: 各组 661W 细胞中 SOD 活性比较 与对照组相比,  $^aP < 0.05$  (独立样本 *t* 检验,  $n = 6$ )

MDA: 丙二醛; SOD: 超氧化物歧化酶; AGEs: 晚期糖基化终末产物

**Figure 6 Comparison of MDA concentration and SOD activity in mouse retinal tissue and 661W cells between different groups** A: Comparison of MDA concentration in mouse retinal tissue B: Comparison of SOD activity in mouse retinal tissue C: Comparison of MDA concentration in 661W cells D: Comparison of SOD activity in 661W cells Compared with control group,  $^aP < 0.05$  (Independent samples *t*-test,  $n = 6$ ) MDA: malondialdehyde; SOD: superoxide dismutase; AGEs: advanced glycosylation end products

紊乱使 ROS 表达水平升高;而 ROS 表达水平的升高也会干扰一系列表观遗传学修饰,使异常代谢状态在血糖回归正常后依然持续<sup>[5]</sup>。近年来已有较多研究阐述了 ROS 上调后引起线粒体功能障碍、凋亡等损伤的机制,但糖尿病损伤对氧化-抗氧化系统的影响仍待进一步研究。

本研究观察到,人及小鼠视网膜在糖尿病条件下出现光感受器细胞外节变形及断裂,光感受器细胞标志物 Rhodopsin 表达水平下降,胶质细胞标志物 GFAP 表达增加,提示糖尿病可导致 DRN,引起光感受器细胞损伤。GPX4 是唯一能够直接靶向清除生物膜上脂质活性氧自由基的酶,参与神经退行性疾病的发生和发展<sup>[12]</sup>,其缺失能引起脂质过氧化物的堆积,破坏细胞的正常结构和功能。GPX4 表达下调及其介导的脂质过氧化产物聚集是参与干性 AMD 中光感受器细胞损伤的重要机制<sup>[13]</sup>,也是大脑神经退行性病变的发生机制之一<sup>[12,14]</sup>。而糖尿病条件下,视网膜中 GPX4 水平的变化既往未见文献报道。本研究中,在糖尿病遗传体捐献者及小鼠视网膜、AGEs 处理 661W 细胞中均观察到 GPX4 下调,提示糖尿病损伤对抗氧化酶的影响可能是引起 SOD 活性降低、MDA 浓度升高,最终导致光感受器细胞氧化应激损伤的原因。

综上所述,GPX4 下调及氧化-抗氧化系统失衡可能参与糖尿病引起的视网膜光感受器细胞损伤。我们下一步将开展在体及离体基因编辑技术进行进一步验证。GPX4 表达下调是多种氧化应激损伤的共同特征,也是重要的治疗靶点<sup>[15-17]</sup>。既往研究指出,在肝脏毒性损伤的模型中,乳铁蛋白能上调 GPX4 表达水平,减轻炎症反应和氧化应激损伤<sup>[17]</sup>。此外,GPX4 被认为是铁死亡的关键保护因子<sup>[18]</sup>,本研究观察到糖尿病模型中 GPX4 表达的下调和脂质过氧化产物 MDA 表达的升高,提示铁死亡可能是引起视网膜光感受器损伤的机制,我们下一步将进行相关分子机制的深入研究。

**利益冲突** 所有作者均声明不存在任何利益冲突

**作者贡献声明** 肖可:实施研究、采集数据、分析/解释数据、起草文章;余慧敏:参与选题、文献查阅;孙旭芳:审阅及修改文章;陈旭辉:设计实验、修改文章及定稿

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