

· 实验研究 ·

骨形态发生蛋白 7 模拟肽 THR123 对 PVR 发生及 RPE 细胞 EMT 的调控作用及机制

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【摘要】目的 探讨骨形态发生蛋白(BMP)7模拟肽 THR123对增生性玻璃体视网膜病变(PVR)发生及视网膜色素上皮(RPE)细胞上皮-间充质转化(EMT)的调控作用及机制。**方法** 取分离自供体眼球的人原代 RPE 细胞,将其分为阴性对照组、转化生长因子 $\beta 2$ (TGF- $\beta 2$)刺激组和 THR123 治疗组,分别用常规培养基、含 10 ng/ml TGF- $\beta 2$ 培养基、含 10 ng/ml TGF- $\beta 2$ 和 5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 培养基培养 48 h。采用 Western blot 法检测各组 EMT 标志物 E-钙粘素(E-Cadherin)、纤连蛋白(FN)、 α -平滑肌肌动蛋白(α -SMA)和 BMP 受体激活素受体样激酶 2(ALK2)及转录因子锌指蛋白转录因子 1(Snail1)表达;采用凝胶收缩实验检测各组 RPE 收缩功能差异;采用 Transwell 实验检测各组 RPE 细胞迁移能力;采用跨上皮电阻检测 RPE 细胞上皮极性变化。取成年青紫蓝兔 30 只,采用玻璃体腔注射 RPE 细胞及血小板源性生长因子建立兔 PVR 模型,按照随机数字表法分为 PVR 组、0.5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 组和 5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 组分别在造模日及造模后 7 d 进行右眼相应浓度 THR123 玻璃体腔注射,采用检眼镜每 7 d 进行 1 次眼底观察,采用 B 型超声确认有无视网膜脱离,分别于造模后 14 和 28 d 进行 PVR 分级,造模后 28 d 空气栓塞法处死模型兔后取眼球行苏木精-伊红染色及 α -SMA 免疫荧光染色,比较各组 PVR 进展差异。原代 RPE 细胞中加入 BMP 受体抑制剂 LDN193189 作为 LDN 抑制组,检测阴性对照组和 LDN 抑制组 RPE 细胞 EMT 标志物及功能差异;在 RPE 细胞中分别转染对照和 Snail1 的小干扰 RNA 作为 siNC+TGF- $\beta 2$ 组和 siSnail1+TGF- $\beta 2$ 组,检测各组 RPE 细胞 EMT 标志物及功能差异。**结果** 阴性对照组、TGF- $\beta 2$ 刺激组和 THR123 治疗组凝胶收缩比例、跨上皮电阻值及 E-Cadherin、FN 和 α -SMA 蛋白相对表达量总体比较,差异均有统计学意义($F=28.38, 136.30, 38.50, 2.53, 53.54$, 均 $P<0.01$)。与阴性对照组和 THR123 治疗组比较,TGF- $\beta 2$ 刺激组凝胶收缩比例、跨上皮电阻值、E-Cadherin 相对表达量降低, α -SMA、FN 相对表达量升高,差异均有统计学意义(均 $P<0.01$)。造模后 28 d,PVR 组、0.5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 组和 5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 组 PVR 分级分别为 4.00 \pm 0.45、2.80 \pm 0.37 和 1.80 \pm 0.37,总体比较差异有统计学意义($F=7.583, P=0.007$),其中 5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 组兔眼 PVR 分级显著低于 PVR 组,差异有统计学意义($P<0.05$)。苏木精-伊红染色显示,5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 组兔眼视网膜前增生膜数量较 PVR 组和 0.5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 组少,视网膜未见脱离。免疫荧光染色显示 5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 组玻璃体腔及视网膜 α -SMA 表达较 PVR 组和 0.5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 组明显减少。与阴性对照组和 THR123 治疗组比较,TGF- $\beta 2$ 刺激组 ALK2 蛋白相对表达量明显降低,Snail1 蛋白相对表达量明显升高,差异均有统计学意义(均 $P<0.01$)。与阴性对照组相比,LDN 抑制组凝胶收缩比例、跨上皮电阻值和 E-cadherin 蛋白相对表达量明显降低, FN、 α -SMA 和 Snail1 蛋白相对表达量明显升高,差异均有统计学意义(均 $P<0.01$)。与 siNC+TGF- $\beta 2$ 组相比较,siSnail1+TGF- $\beta 2$ 组细胞凝胶收缩比例、E-Cadherin 蛋白相对表达量明显升高, FN、 α -SMA 和 Snail1 蛋白相对表达量明显降低,差异均有统计学意义(均 $P<0.05$)。**结论** BMP7 模拟肽 THR123 可以激活 BMP 通路抑制 Snail1 表达,从而抑制 RPE 细胞 EMT 过程及 PVR 发生。

【关键词】 骨形态发生蛋白; 增生性玻璃体视网膜病变; 视网膜色素上皮; 上皮-间充质转化**基金项目:** 上海市“科技创新行动计划”自然科学基金(21ZR1459300)

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【Abstract】Objective To investigate the role of bone morphogenetic protein (BMP) 7 peptidomimetics THR123 in the regulation of proliferative vitreoretinopathy (PVR) and epithelial-mesenchymal transition (EMT) in

retinal pigment epithelial (RPE) cells. **Methods** Primary human RPE cells were isolated from donor eyes. The RPE cells were cultured for 48 hours with conventional medium, medium containing 10 ng/ml transforming growth factor- β 2 (TGF- β 2), medium containing 10 ng/ml TGF- β 2 and 5 μ g/ml THR123, respectively, serving as negative control group, TGF- β 2 stimulation group and THR123-treated group. The relative protein expression levels of E-cadherin, α -smooth muscle actin (α -SMA), fibronectin (FN), activin receptor-like kinase-2 (ALK2) and Snail family zinc finger transcription factor 1, Snail1 were detected by Western blot analysis in each group. RPE cell contractile function was detected by collagen gel contraction assay. RPE cell migration function was detected by transwell assay. RPE cell polarity was detected by transepithelial resistance. For the *in vivo* model, the rabbit PVR model was established by intravitreal injection of RPE cells and cytokine platelet-derived growth factor. The PVR rabbits were randomly divide into PVR group, 0.5 μ g/ml THR123 group and 5 μ g/ml THR123 group, and were intravitreally injected with corresponding concentration of THR123 on the day of modelling and 7 days after modelling. The fundus conditions of rabbits were observed every 7 days. Retinal detachment was checked by B-scan ultrasonography every 7 days, and PVR grading was performed on 14 and 28 days after modelling. On day 28 after modelling, the rabbit was sacrificed by air embolism and the eyeball was enucleated. Hematoxylin-eosin (HE) staining and α -SMA immunofluorescence staining were performed to compare the differences in PVR progression among groups. In the LDN inhibition group, BMP receptor inhibitor LDN193189 was added to primary RPE cells and the expression of EMT markers and cell functional differences of RPE cells were compared between negative control group and LDN inhibition group. Small interfering RNA of control and Snail1 was transfected into RPE cells of siNC+TGF- β 2 group and siSnail1+TGF- β 2 group, respectively, and the differences in EMT markers and function of RPE cells were compared. The protocol involving human specimens, cells and animals in this study was approved by the Medical Ethics Committee of Shanghai General Hospital (No. 2021SQ057). **Results** There were statistically significant differences in gel contraction ratio, transepithelial resistance and relative expressions of E-Cadherin, FN and α -SMA proteins among the negative control group, TGF- β 2 stimulation group and THR123-treated group ($F=28.38, 136.30, 38.50, 2.53, 53.54$; all $P<0.01$). Compared with the negative control group and THR123-treated group, the gel contraction ratio, transepithelial resistance, and relative expression of E-cadherin in the TGF- β 2 stimulation group decreased, and the relative expression of α -SMA and FN increased, with statistically significant differences (all $P<0.01$). On day 28 after modeling, the PVR grades in the PVR group, 5 μ g/ml THR123 group and 5 μ g/ml THR123 group were 4.00 \pm 0.45, 2.80 \pm 0.37, 1.80 \pm 0.37, respectively, with a statistically significant difference among groups ($F=7.583, P=0.007$). The PVR grade of rabbit eyes was significantly lower in the 5 μ g/ml THR123 group than in the PVR group ($P<0.05$). HE staining showed that the number of preretinal proliferative membranes was less in the 5 μ g/ml THR123 group than in the PVR group and the 0.5 μ g/ml THR123 group, and no retinal detachment was found. Immunofluorescence staining showed that the expression of α -SMA in vitreous cavity and retina was significantly lower in the 5 μ g/ml THR123 group than in the PVR group and the 0.5 μ g/ml THR123 group. Compared with the negative control group and THR123-treated group, the relative expression of ALK2 protein in the TGF- β 2 stimulation group was significantly decreased, and the relative expression of Snail1 protein was significantly increased (all $P<0.01$). Compared with the negative control group, the gel contraction ratio, transepithelial resistance and relative expression of E-cadherin protein in the LDN inhibition group were significantly reduced, and the relative expression of FN, α -SMA and Snail1 proteins were significantly increased (all $P<0.01$). Compared with the siNC+TGF- β 2 group, the gel contraction ratio and the relative expression of E-cadherin protein in the siSnail1+TGF- β 2 group were significantly increased, and the relative expression of FN, α -SMA and Snail1 proteins were significantly decreased (all $P<0.05$). **Conclusions** THR123 can activate the BMP pathway to inhibit Snail1, thereby inhibiting the EMT process in RPE cells and PVR occurrence. It is expected to provide potential targets for PVR drug therapy.

[Key words] Bone morphogenetic proteins; Proliferative vitreoretinopathy; Retinal pigment epithelium; Epithelial-mesenchymal transition

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增生性玻璃体视网膜病变 (proliferative vitreoretinopathy, PVR) 是孔源性视网膜脱离的主要并发症,也是视网膜脱离手术失败的重要原因^[1]。PVR 手术预后不佳,因此,针对 PVR 的早期干预是研究热点^[2]。PVR 的主要病理特征是玻璃体腔和视网膜周围细胞性纤维膜的广泛增生,进而引起视网膜变性和牵引性脱离,最终导致不可逆的视力丧失^[3-4]。视网

膜色素上皮 (retinal pigment epithelium, RPE) 细胞增殖和上皮-间充质转化 (epithelial-mesenchymal transition, EMT) 是 PVR 发生的关键机制。RPE 细胞发生 EMT 的分子机制复杂。研究发现, PVR 微环境中的转化生长因子 (transforming growth factor, TGF)- β 1/2 使 RPE 细胞早期即发生细胞间连接改变,其中黏附连接蛋白 E-Cadherin 表达最先下调,并启动 EMT^[5]。TGF- β 1/2

可激活 RPE 细胞经典的 TGF- β /Smad 通路,诱导 Smad2/3 磷酸化,使下游 Snail 家族锌指转录因子 1 (Snail family zinc finger transcription factor 1, Snail1) 表达上调,以抑制 E-Cadherin 表达从而介导 EMT^[6-9]。目前,预防和治疗 PVR 药物的主要作用机制为抑制 RPE 细胞增殖、迁移和 EMT^[10]。研究发现,过表达骨形态发生蛋白 (bone morphogenetic proteins, BMP) 7 后可抑制 TGF- β 1/2 诱导的 RPE 细胞 EMT^[11]。据此推测 BMP7 有可能成为干预 PVR 发生和发展的分子靶点。本研究拟探索外源性 BMP7 模拟肽 THR123 对 RPE 细胞 EMT 的抑制作用以及对兔 PVR 模型的调控作用,以期对 PVR 的预防和治疗提供实验基础。

1 材料与方法

1.1 材料

1.1.1 细胞及动物来源 人原代 RPE 细胞分离自上海红十字会眼库供体眼球。成年青紫蓝兔 30 只,体重 2~3 kg,购自上海甲干生物科技有限公司[许可证号:SCXK(沪)2020-0006]。本研究所涉及人体标本、细胞、实验动物方案均经上海市第一人民医院医学伦理委员会审核批准(批文号:2021SQ057)。

1.1.2 主要试剂及仪器 DMEM/F12 培养基、人重组 TGF- β 2(美国 Gibco ThermoFisher Scientific 公司);血小板源性生长因子 (platelet-derived growth factor, PDGF)(美国 R&D 公司);LDN193189(美国 Sigma Merck 公司);BMP7 模拟肽 THR123(上海强耀生物科技有限公司);抑制 Snail1 表达的 siRNA 质粒及阴性对照 siRNA 质粒(上海吉玛制药技术有限公司);Lipofectamine 3000(美国 Invitrogen 公司);BCA 蛋白测定试剂盒(美国 Thermo sciences 公司);硝化纤维素膜、Transwell 小室(美国 Millipore 公司);DAPI Fluoromount-G(美国 SouthernBiotech 公司);小鼠抗人 E-Cadherin 单克隆抗体(ab231303)、小鼠抗 α 平滑肌肌动蛋白(α -smooth muscle actin, α -SMA)单克隆抗体(ab7817)、小鼠抗人纤连蛋白 (fibronectin, FN)单克隆抗体(ab281574)、兔抗人激活素受体样激酶 2 (activin receptor-like kinase-2, ALK2)多克隆抗体(ab262699)、兔抗人 Snail1 单克隆抗体(ab216347)、小鼠抗人 GAPDH 单克隆抗体(ab8245)、Alexa Flour 488 山羊抗鼠荧光二抗(ab150113)(英国 Abcam 公司);山羊抗鼠 800 荧光二抗(926-32210)、山羊抗兔 680 荧光二抗(926-68071)(美国 Li-Cor 公司)。眼科 A/B 超声诊断仪(RetiWave,重庆贝奥新视野医疗设备有限公司);共聚焦显微镜(德国 Carl Zeiss 公司);荧

光显微镜(德国 Leica 公司);聚丙烯酰胺凝胶电泳仪(美国 Bio-Rad 公司);奥德赛近红外成像系统(美国 Li-Cor 公司);上皮跨膜电阻仪(Millicell-ERS2,美国密理博-默克公司)。

1.2 方法

1.2.1 原代细胞分离培养 参照文献[12-13]分离和培养原代 RPE 细胞。供体去角膜眼杯以视神经为中心剪成“十”字花瓣状,去除内容物及视网膜层,色素上皮层用 37 °C 预热的 0.25% 胰蛋白酶-EDTA 消化收集原代 RPE 细胞。原代 RPE 细胞常规用含 10% 胎牛血清及 1% 青-链霉素的 DMEM/F12 培养基,置入 5% CO₂ 培养箱 37 °C 恒温培养,培养基每 2 d 更换 1 次。取传代次数为 3~4 代且呈现规则六边形上皮细胞形态的细胞进行后续研究,模型建立前 12 h 均更换为无血清培养基。

1.2.2 EMT 模型建立及分组处理 将 RPE 细胞接种至培养皿,按 1:3 比例传代,70%~80% 融合后将其分为阴性对照组、TGF- β 2 刺激组和 THR123 治疗组,分别用常规培养基、含 10 ng/ml TGF- β 2 培养基、含 10 ng/ml TGF- β 2 和 5 μ g/ml THR123 培养基培养 48 h。另将 RPE 细胞分为阴性对照组和 LDN 抑制组,分别加入常规培养基和含 5 nmol/L LDN193189 培养基培养 48 h。

1.2.3 Snail1 siRNA 转染细胞及分组处理 将 RPE 细胞接种至 6 孔板中,1:3 传代,常规培养 12 h 后,分为 siNC+TGF- β 2 组和 siSnail1+TGF- β 2 组,分别加入含 10 ng/ml TGF- β 2+20 nmol/L 阴性对照 siRNA 培养基和含 10 ng/ml TGF- β 2+20 nmol/L Snail1 的 siRNA 培养基继续培养 24 h,荧光显微镜下观察荧光表达情况以鉴定转染是否成功。其中 Snail1 的正向 siRNA 序列:5'-GAUCUUCSSCUGCAAAUAUTT-3',反向 siRNA 序列:5'-AUAUUUGCAGUUGAAGAUCTT-3',由苏州吉玛基因股份有限公司合成。

1.2.4 兔 PVR 模型建立及分组处理 参照文献[14]建立兔 PVR 模型。以右眼为实验眼,将模型兔按照随机数字表法随机分为 PVR 组、0.5 μ g/ml THR123 组和 5 μ g/ml THR123 组,每组 10 只,造模前 7 d 用注射用盐酸替来他明盐酸唑拉西洋 50 μ g/g 腹腔内注射麻醉后经角膜缘抽取 0.1 ml 前房水,并经睫状体平坦部注入纯 C₃F₈ 气体 0.4 ml,使玻璃体液化并将玻璃体压向周边;造模当日,再次麻醉实验兔并抽取 0.1 ml 前房水,将 1.5 \times 10⁵ 个第 3 代人 RPE 细胞和 50 ng PDGF 一同加入 100 μ l 磷酸盐缓冲液 (phosphate buffered saline, PBS) 中,经睫状体平坦部注入玻璃体腔,0.5 μ g/ml

THR123 组和 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ THR123 组玻璃体腔注射液中分别加入终质量浓度为 0.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ 或 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ THR123;造模后第 7 天再次对应注射 100 μl PBS、0.5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ THR123 或 5 $\mu\text{g}/\text{ml}$ THR123。造模及观察过程中每组有 2 只模型兔死亡,不纳入模型统计。造模后,每 7 d 采用全视网膜镜进行眼底观察并用手机 (iPhone 10) 拍摄眼底照片,造模后 14 及 28 d 分别采用 B 型超声检查是否存在视网膜脱离 (图 1)。根据文献 [15] 的方法进行 PVR 分级:1 级为有玻璃体内增生膜;2 级为有局灶性牵引,局部血管改变、充血、血管异常;3 级为在髓鞘处有局部脱离;4 级为有进一步的视网膜脱离,全髓鞘脱离,视盘周围视网膜脱离;5 级为有全视网膜脱离和视网膜皱褶及裂孔。

1.2.5 苏木精-伊红染色和免疫荧光染色观察各组视网膜形态及 α -SMA 表达 模型建立后 28 d,经耳缘静脉快速注入 50 ml 空气处死模型兔,取出眼球,并置于 10% 中性甲醛中 4 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 过夜,石蜡包埋,5 μm 厚纵向进行切片。选择完整切片 (包括角膜及视神经) 在 65 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 下孵育 30 min,用二甲苯洗涤 2 次,梯度乙醇 (100%、100%、90%、80%) 和水中各孵育 3 min。(1) 苏木精-伊红染色 取水化的组织切片,于苏木素染液中浸润 30 min,清水漂洗,盐酸乙醇褪色后用梯度乙醇脱水,用伊红乙醇复染核,二甲苯透明后用中性树脂封片。(2) 免疫荧光染色 取水化的组织切片,用柠檬酸钠进行抗原修复,加入抗 α -SMA 抗体 (1:1 000 稀释) 在 37 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 下孵育 1 h, PBS 漂洗 3 次;

加入相应的二抗 37 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 下孵育 1 h, PBS 漂洗 2 次,并用 DAPI Fluoromount-G 封片液染核并封片。使用激光扫描共聚焦显微镜进行图像采集。

1.2.6 siRNA 转染敲减 Snail1 表达 RPE 细胞接种至 6 孔板中,在转染前 24 h 更换无血清培养基,用 Lipofectamine 3000 配制终质量浓度为 20 nmol/L 的 siSnail1 和 siNC 培养 24 h 后荧光显微镜下观察培养皿中荧光表型,鉴定转染是否成功。采用 Western blot 检测 Snail1 表达量。

1.2.7 Western blot 法检测各组细胞中 EMT 标志物、BMP 受体 ALK2 及转录因子 Snail1 的蛋白表达量 收集各组细胞,加入裂解缓冲液在冰上裂解 30 min。使用 BCA 蛋白测定试剂盒对蛋白浓度进行定量。取 30 μg 总蛋白,95 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 水浴变性后,进行聚丙烯酰胺凝胶电泳分离,并转印到硝酸纤维素膜上,5% 脱脂奶粉封闭 1 h;加入 E-Cadherin (1:500 稀释)、FN (1:2 000 稀释)、 α -SMA (1:1 000 稀释)、Snail1 (1:500 稀释) 及 ALK2 (1:500 稀释) 一抗 4 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 孵育过夜;PBST 震荡洗涤 3 次,加入相应荧光二抗 (1:5 000 稀释) 在室温下孵育 1.5 h,应用近红外成像系统扫描,利用 Quantity One 软件测定灰度值,以 GAPDH 作为内参照,采用 ImageJ 软件分析各目的蛋白相对表达量。实验独立重复 3 次。

1.2.8 凝胶收缩实验检测各组 RPE 细胞收缩功能 参照文献 [16] 的方法,取 24 孔细胞培养板,用 1% 牛血清白蛋白 37 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 包被 1 h。取分组处理后的细胞用无血清培养基制成细胞悬液,以胶原 I (终质量浓度 2 mg/ml)、原代 RPE 细胞 ($1 \times 10^5 \sim 2 \times 10^5$ 个)、50 μl 10 倍 DMEM/F12 培养基、NaOH (1N, 胶原 I 溶剂的 0.025 倍)、双蒸水配制成 500 μl 溶液,并加入包被后的 24 孔板中,37 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 孵育使之凝固;上层加入 500 μl 各组相应培养基于 37 $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 培养 48 h。观察凝胶收缩情况并拍照,用 ImageJ 软件计算收缩比例,收缩比例 = 凝胶面积/24 孔板单孔面积 \times 100%。实验独立重复 3 次。

1.2.9 Transwell 实验检测各组 RPE 细胞迁移能力 细胞计数后取 1×10^5 个细胞 100 μl 接种于带有 8 μm 孔径小孔的 Transwell 小室上室中,培养基含 0.5% 胎牛血清,下室加入含 10% 胎牛血清的

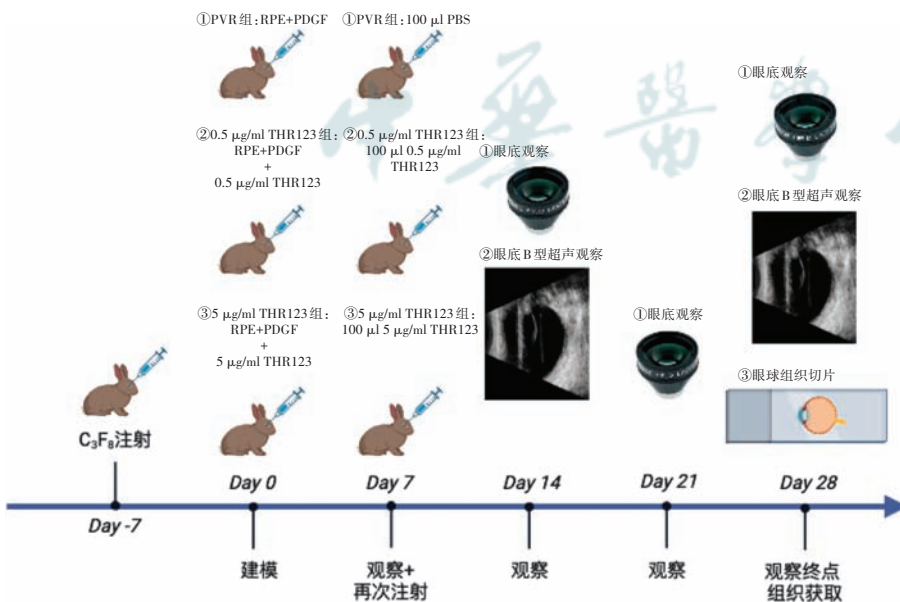


图 1 兔 PVR 模型建立示意图 PVR:增生性玻璃体视网膜病变;RPE:视网膜色素上皮;PDGF:血小板源性生长因子;PBS:磷酸盐缓冲液

Figure 1 Rabbit PVR model establishment diagrams PVR: proliferative vitreoretinopathy; RPE: retinal pigment epithelium; PDGF: platelet derived growth factor; PBS: phosphate buffered saline

培养基 600 μ l, 于 37 $^{\circ}$ C 细胞培养箱中培养 20 h。从细胞培养箱中取出小室, -20 $^{\circ}$ C 预冷的冰甲醇固定 30 min, PBS 洗 3 次, 5 min/次; 加入 500 μ l 结晶紫溶液染色 10 min, PBS 洗 3 次, 5 min/次, 光学显微镜下观察并拍照, 用 ImageJ 软件随机选取 100 倍下 3 个视野, 进行细胞计数。实验独立重复 3 次。

1.2.10 跨上皮电阻检测 各组 RPE 细胞上皮功能完整性 参照文献[17]方法, 分别于细胞实验前、加入药物刺激后 24 h 及 48 h 向分组培养的细胞中插入上皮跨膜电阻仪的 2 个电极分别置于培养液中和贴壁培养的细胞侧, 通过欧姆电阻对电极施加直流电压并测量电流。电阻值 $\geq 150 \Omega \cdot \text{cm}^2$ 表示上皮细胞连接完整, $<150 \Omega \cdot \text{cm}^2$ 表示存在上皮细胞连接破坏。数据重复测量 3 次, 取平均值。实验独立重复 3 次。

1.3 统计学方法

采用 SPSS 22.0 统计学软件进行统计分析, 采用 GraphPad Prism 6 软件作图。计量资料经 *t* 检验证实符合正态分布, 以 $\bar{x} \pm s$ 表示。各组数据经 Levene 检验证实方差齐, 2 个组间差异比较, 采用独立样本 *t* 检验; 多组间总体差异比较采用单因素方差分析, 组间多重比较采用 Tukey 检验。 *P* < 0.05 为差异有统计学意义。

2 结果

2.1 各组 RPE 细胞 EMT 标志物及功能指标比较

凝胶收缩实验结果显示, TGF- β 2 刺激组凝胶较阴性对照组和 THR123 治疗组明显收缩 (图 2A)。Transwell 小室实验结果显示, TGF- β 2 刺激组迁移细胞数明显多于阴性对照组和 THR123 治疗组 (图 2B)。Western blot 结果显示, 与阴性对照组和 THR123 治疗组比较, TGF- β 2 刺激组上皮细胞标志物 E-Cadherin 蛋白电泳条带灰度降低, 间充质标志物 α -SMA 和 FN 蛋白电泳条带灰度值增加 (图 2C)。

各组凝胶收缩比例、细胞迁移数、跨上皮电阻值以及 E-Cadherin、FN 和 α -SMA 蛋白相对表达量总体比较, 差异均有统计学意义 (*F* = 28.38, 0.13, 136.30, 138.50, 22.53, 53.54, 均 *P* < 0.01)。与阴性对照组和 THR123 治疗组比较, TGF- β 2 刺激组凝胶收缩比例、跨上皮电阻值、E-Cadherin 相对表达量降低, 细胞迁移数、 α -SMA、FN 相对表达量升高, 差异均有统计学意义 (均 *P* < 0.01); 阴性对照组与 THR123 治疗组凝胶收缩比例、细胞迁移数、跨上皮电阻值、E-Cadherin、 α -SMA 和 FN 相对表达量比较, 差异均无统计学意义 (均 *P* > 0.05) (表 1)。

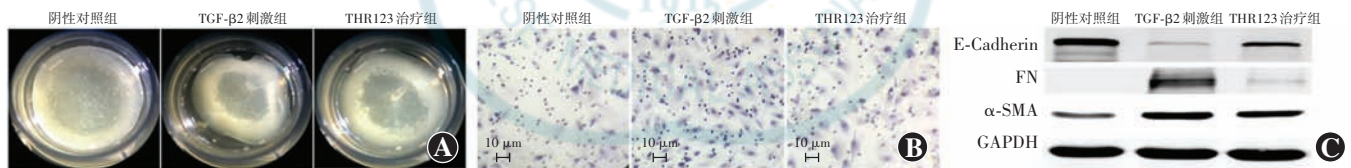


图 2 外源性添加 THR123 对 TGF- β 2 诱导 RPE 细胞纤维化的影响 A: 凝胶收缩实验结果图 与阴性对照组相比, TGF- β 2 刺激组凝胶收缩明显, THR123 治疗组凝胶收缩程度有所减轻 B: Transwell 实验 (结晶紫 $\times 40$, 标尺 = 10 μ m) C: Western blot 检测 EMT 标志物蛋白表达水平 TGF- β 2 刺激组 E-Cadherin 蛋白条带强度弱于阴性对照组和 THR123 治疗组, FN 和 α -SMA 蛋白条带强度强于阴性对照组和 THR123 治疗组 TGF- β 2: 转化生长因子- β 2; E-Cadherin: E-钙粘素; FN: 纤连蛋白; α -SMA: α 平滑肌肌动蛋白; GAPDH: 甘油醛-3-磷酸脱氢酶

Figure 2 Effect of exogenous addition of THR123 on TGF- β 2-induced RPE cell fibrosis A: Results of collagen gel contraction assay Compared with the negative control group, gel contraction was obvious in TGF- β 2 group, and the contraction was reduced in THR123-treated group B: Transwell assay (crystal violet $\times 40$, scale bar = 10 μ m) C: Expression of EMT marker proteins detected by Western blot Compared with the negative control group and THR123-treated group, the intensity of E-Cadherin protein bands was decreased and the intensities of FN and α -SMA protein bands were increased in TGF- β 2 group TGF- β 2: transforming growth factor- β 2; FN: fibronectin; α -SMA: α -smooth muscle actin; GAPDH: glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase

表 1 各组 RPE 细胞 EMT 标志物表达及功能指标比较 ($\bar{x} \pm s$)

Table 1 Comparison of EMT marker expression and functional parameters of RPE cells among three groups ($\bar{x} \pm s$)

组别	样本量	凝胶收缩比例 (%)	细胞迁移数 (个/视野)	跨上皮电阻值 ($\Omega \cdot \text{cm}^2$) (48 h)	E-Cadherin 相对表达量	FN 相对表达量	α -SMA 相对表达量
阴性对照组	3	95.667 \pm 2.848	34.000 \pm 3.215	193.700 \pm 2.402	1.000 \pm 0.000	1.000 \pm 0.000	1.000 \pm 0.000
TGF- β 2 刺激组	3	53.667 \pm 4.096 ^{ab}	85.667 \pm 3.930 ^b	52.500 \pm 3.180 ^{ab}	0.337 \pm 0.041 ^{ab}	5.700 \pm 0.586 ^{ab}	2.933 \pm 0.296 ^{ab}
THR123 治疗组	3	88.000 \pm 5.292	44.667 \pm 2.404	140.700 \pm 1.877	0.823 \pm 0.030	1.500 \pm 0.173	1.330 \pm 0.145
<i>F</i> 值		28.38	0.13	136.30	138.50	22.53	53.54
<i>P</i> 值		<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	0.002	0.001

注: 与阴性对照组比较, ^a*P* < 0.01; 与 THR123 治疗组比较, ^b*P* < 0.01 (单因素方差分析, Tukey 检验) RPE: 视网膜色素上皮; EMT: 上皮-间充质转化; TGF- β 2: 转化生长因子 β 2; FN: 纤连蛋白; α -SMA: α 平滑肌肌动蛋白

Note: Compared with negative control group, ^a*P* < 0.01; compared with THR123-treated group, ^b*P* < 0.01 (One-way ANOVA, Tukey test) RPE: retinal pigment epithelium; EMT: epithelial-mesenchymal transition; TGF- β 2: transforming growth factor- β 2; FN: fibronectin; α -SMA: α -smooth muscle actin

2.2 各组兔眼 PVR 分级比较

造模后 28 d, PVR 分级总体比较差异有统计学意义 ($F=7.583, P=0.007$), 其中 5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 组兔眼 PVR 分级显著低于 PVR 组, 差异有统计学意义 ($P<0.05$) (表 2)。眼底图像显示 PVR 组兔眼视网膜全脱离, B 型超声显示视网膜呈漏斗型脱离; 5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 组兔眼仅可见视网膜前少量增生膜, 未见视网膜脱离; 0.5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 组兔眼可见视网膜前增生膜, 偶见有视网膜浅脱离。苏木精-伊红染色显示, PVR 组兔眼视网膜前大量增生膜, 增生膜牵拉视网膜导致视网膜脱离; 5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 组兔眼视网膜前增生膜数量少, 视网膜未见脱离; 0.5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 组可见视网膜前增生膜, 偶见视网膜脱离 (图 3A~C)。免疫荧光染色显示, PVR 组兔眼脱离的视网膜及前膜上 $\alpha\text{-SMA}$ 表达阳性, 5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 组玻璃体腔及视网膜鲜有 $\alpha\text{-SMA}$ 的表达, 0.5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 组有 $\alpha\text{-SMA}$ 的表达 (图 3D)。

2.3 各组 ALK 及 Snail1 蛋白相对表达量比较

阴性对照组、TGF- β 2 刺激组和 THR123 治疗组 ALK2 和 Snail1 蛋白相对表达量总体比较, 差异有统计学意义 ($F=142.40, 69.55$, 均 $P<0.001$)。与阴性对照组和 THR123 治疗组比较, TGF- β 2 刺激组 ALK2 蛋白相对表达量明显降低, Snail1 蛋白相对表达量明显升高, 差异均有统计学意义 (均 $P<0.01$) (图 4A, 表 3)。

2.4 阴性对照组和 LDN 抑制组细胞 Snail1 表达、EMT 标志物表达及功能指标比较

与阴性对照组相比, LDN 抑制组凝胶收缩比例、跨上皮电阻值和 E-Cadherin 蛋白相对表达量明显降低, FN、 $\alpha\text{-SMA}$ 和 Snail1 蛋白相对表达量明显升高, 差异均有统计学意义 ($t=8.277, 30.410, 2.443, 16.410, 8.518, 4.572$, 均 $P<0.01$) (图 4B、C, 表 4)。

组别	样本量	造模后 14 d	造模后 28 d
PVR 组	8	2.67 \pm 0.42	4.00 \pm 0.45
0.5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 治疗组	8	1.83 \pm 0.31	2.80 \pm 0.37
5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 治疗组	8	1.50 \pm 0.34	1.80 \pm 0.37 ^a
F 值		1.163	7.583
P 值		0.378	0.007

注: 与 PVR 组比较, ^a $P<0.01$ (单因素方差分析, Tukey 检验) PVR: 增生性玻璃体视网膜病变
Note: Compared with PVR group, ^a $P<0.01$ (One-way ANOVA, Tukey test) PVR: proliferative vitreoretinopathy

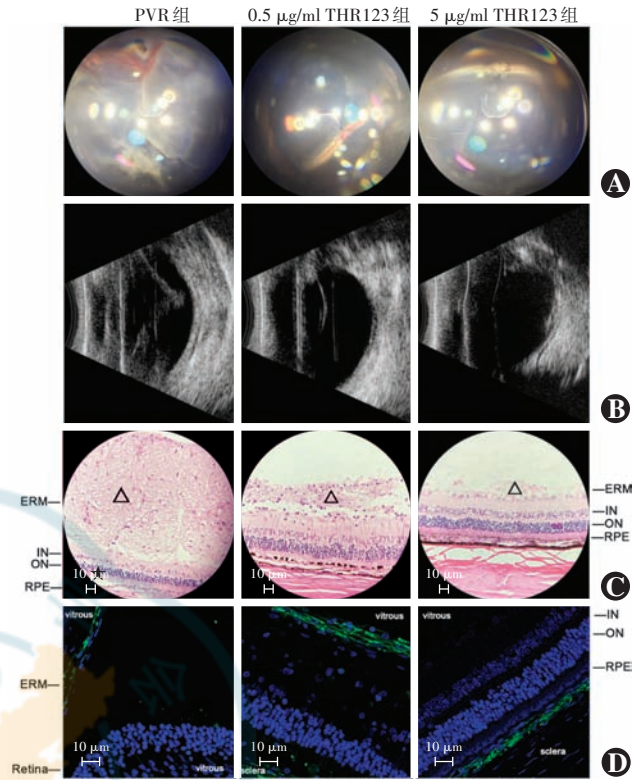


图 3 各组兔眼 PVR 进展情况比较 A: 各组造模后 28 d 兔眼眼底图像 PVR 组可见视网膜全脱离; 0.5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 组可见明显增生膜; 5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 组仅可见视网膜前少量增生膜 B: 各组造模后 28 d 兔眼 B 型超声检查图像 PVR 组视网膜呈漏斗型脱离; 0.5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 治疗组可见视网膜前牵拉; 5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 治疗组未见视网膜脱离 C: 各组 PVR 模型眼组织病理染色 (HE $\times 200$, 标尺 = 10 μm) PVR 组视网膜前可见大量增生膜 (三角), 增生膜牵拉视网膜导致视网膜脱离 (星号); 0.5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 治疗组见视网膜前增生膜 (三角); 5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 治疗组视网膜前增生量少, 视网膜未见脱离 D: 各组 PVR 模型眼 $\alpha\text{-SMA}$ 免疫荧光染色观察 ($\times 630$, 标尺 = 10 μm) PVR 组脱离的视网膜及前膜上 $\alpha\text{-SMA}$ 表达阳性; 0.5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 治疗组可见明显 $\alpha\text{-SMA}$ 阳性表达, 但未见明显视网膜脱离表现; 5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 治疗组玻璃体腔及视网膜鲜有 $\alpha\text{-SMA}$ 的表达。绿色荧光示 $\alpha\text{-SMA}$, 蓝色荧光示细胞核 PVR: 增生性玻璃体视网膜病变; ERM: 视网膜前膜; IN: 内核层; ON: 外核层; RPE: 视网膜色素上皮

Figure 3 Comparison of PVR progression in rabbit eyes among groups A: Fundus images of rabbits 28 days after modeling Total retinal detachment was observed in PVR group. The proliferative membrane was obvious in 0.5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 group. Small amount of proliferative membrane was seen in the 5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 group B: B-scan ultrasonography images of rabbits 28 days after modeling Funnel-shaped detachment was observed in PVR group. Retinal anterior traction was seen in 0.5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123-treated group. No retinal detachment was observed in the 5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123-treated group C: Histopathological staining observation of different groups (HE $\times 200$, scale bar = 10 μm) In the PVR group, a large number of proliferative membranes (triangle) in front of the retina were seen, which resulted in retinal detachment (asterisk). Proliferative membrane was observed in 0.5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123-treated group. Less retinal hyperplasia was seen in the 5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123-treated group D: $\alpha\text{-SMA}$ immunofluorescence staining of different PVR groups ($\times 630$, scale bar = 10 μm) Positive $\alpha\text{-SMA}$ expression was seen in detached retina and epiretinal membrane in PVR group. Obviously positive $\alpha\text{-SMA}$ expression was seen, and no obvious retinal detachment was observed in the 0.5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123 group. $\alpha\text{-SMA}$ was rarely expressed in vitreous cavity and retina in the 5 $\mu\text{g/ml}$ THR123-treated group. Green fluorescence showed $\alpha\text{-SMA}$ and blue fluorescence showed the nucleus PVR: proliferative vitreoretinopathy; ERM: epiretinal membrane; IN: inner nuclear layer; ON: outer nuclear layer; RPE: retinal pigment epithelium

2.5 各细胞转染组细胞 Snail1 表达、EMT 标志物表达及功能指标比较

与 siNC+TGF- β 2 组相比较, siSnail1+TGF- β 2 组细胞凝胶收缩比例、E-Cadherin 蛋白相对表达量明显升高, FN、 α -SMA 和 Snail1 蛋白相对表达量明显降低, 差异均有统计学意义 ($t = 4.205, 3.415, 14.620, 3.715, 2.608, 16.150$, 均 $P < 0.05$) (图 4D、E, 表 5)。

3 讨论

玻璃体切割手术是治疗严重 PVR 的主要方式, 但此时视网膜功能已发生不可逆的严重损害, 即使术后视网膜解剖结构复位, 患者的视觉功能仍不能得到有效恢复。有研究显示, 通过玻璃体切割手术使视网膜成功复位的 PVR 病例中, 仅有不到 50% 的患者在 3 个月的随访中最佳矫正视力达到 20/40 以上; 严重的

PVR 病例中完全解剖复位的患者不到 40%^[18]。因此, 对 PVR 的早期药物干预一直是研究的热点和难点。

BMP 是一类属于 TGF- β 超家族的生长因子, 与系统发育相关, 并参与机体各脏器的纤维化过程^[19-20]。有研究利用腺病毒将 BMP7 转染角膜碱灼伤模型小鼠中发现, 过表达 BMP7 有抑制角膜纤维化的作用, 从而对碱灼伤有一定的治疗效果^[21]。Shu 等^[22] 将外源性重组 BMP7 导入晶状体上皮细胞中, 发现 TGF- β 2 诱导的 EMT 过程被抑制。另外, BMP7 通过抑制作为 TGF- β 2 细胞内拮抗剂的 I-Smad7, 显著抑制小梁网细胞由 TGF- β 2 诱导的细胞外基质蛋白的表达^[23-24]。本研究结果也表明, BMP7 模拟肽可抑制 TGF- β 2 诱导的 RPE 细胞 EMT, 并有效抑制兔眼 PVR 的进展。

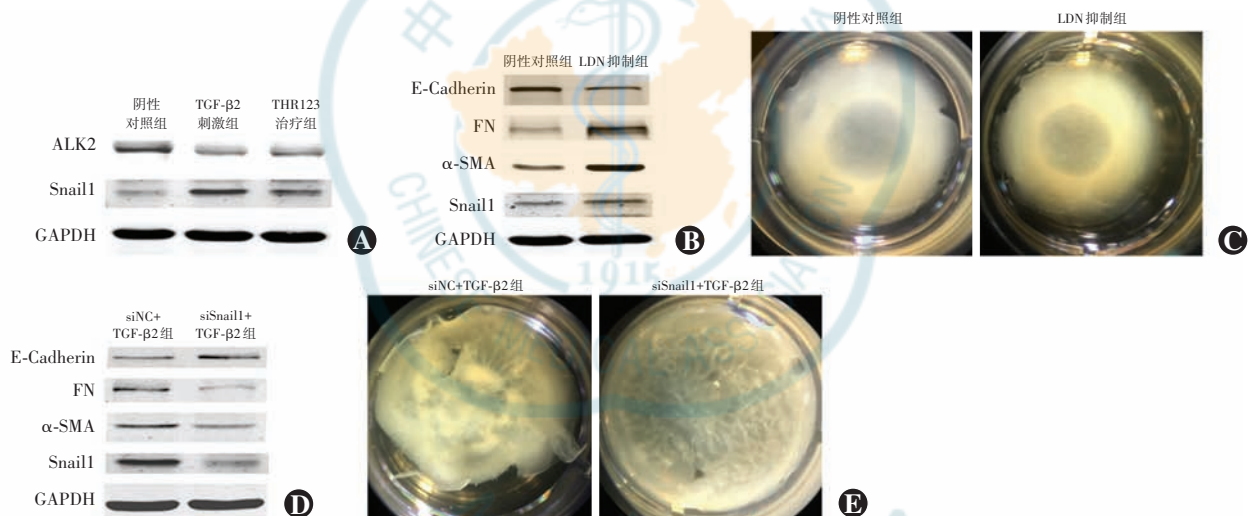


图 4 THR123 结合 BMP 受体 ALK2 对 Snail1 表达的抑制作用 A: Western blot 检测阴性对照组、TGF- β 2 刺激组和 THR123 治疗组 ALK2 及 Snail1 蛋白表达 与阴性对照组相比, TGF- β 2 刺激组和 THR123 治疗组 ALK2 蛋白条带强度均减弱, Snail1 蛋白条带强度均增强; THR123 治疗组较 TGF- β 2 刺激组 ALK2 蛋白条带强度增强, Snail1 蛋白条带强度减弱 B: Western blot 检测阴性对照组和 LDN 抑制组 EMT 标志物及转录因子 Snail1 蛋白表达 与阴性对照组相比, LDN 抑制组 FN、 α -SMA、Snail1 蛋白条带强度均增强, E-Cadherin 蛋白条带强度降低 C: 阴性对照组和 LDN 抑制组凝胶收缩实验结果 与阴性对照组相比, LDN 抑制组 RPE 细胞收缩能力增强 D: Western blot 检测 siNC+TGF- β 2 组和 siSnail1+TGF- β 2 组 EMT 标志物的蛋白表达 与 siNC+TGF- β 2 组相比, siSnail1+TGF- β 2 组 E-Cadherin 蛋白条带强度增强, FN、 α -SMA 蛋白条带强度降低 E: siNC+TGF- β 2 组和 siSnail1+TGF- β 2 组凝胶收缩实验结果 与 siNC+TGF- β 2 组相比, siSnail1+TGF- β 2 组 RPE 细胞收缩能力减弱 TGF- β 2: 转化生长因子- β 2; ALK2: 激活素受体样激酶-2; Snail1: 锌指蛋白转录因子 1; GAPDH: 甘油醛-3-磷酸脱氢酶; E-Cadherin: E-钙粘素; FN: 纤连蛋白; α -SMA: α 平滑肌肌动蛋白; siNC: 阴性对照小干扰 RNA

Figure 4 THR123 binding to BMP receptor ALK2 to inhibit Snail1 expression A: Expression of ALK2 and Snail1 proteins in different groups detected by Western blot Compared with the negative control group, the intensity of ALK2 protein bands were decreased, and the intensity of Snail1 protein band were enhanced in TGF- β 2 stimulation group and THR123-treated group. The intensity of ALK2 protein band was enhanced, and the intensity of Snail1 protein band was decreased in THR123-treated group compared with TGF- β 2 stimulation group B: Expression of EMT markers and transcription factor Snail1 proteins in negative control group and LDN inhibition group detected by Western blot Compared with the negative control group, the intensity of FN, α -SMA and Snail1 protein bands were enhanced and E-Cadherin protein band intensity was decreased in LDN inhibition group C: Results of collagen gel contraction assay in negative control group and LDN inhibition group Compared with negative control group, RPE cell contraction was enhanced in LDN inhibition group D: Expression of EMT marker proteins in siNC+TGF- β 2 group and siSnail1+TGF- β 2 group detected by Western blot Compared with siNC+TGF- β 2 group, the E-Cadherin protein band intensity was enhanced and the intensities of FN and α -SMA protein bands were decreased in siSnail1+TGF- β 2 group E: Results of collagen gel contraction assay in siNC+TGF- β 2 group and siSnail1+TGF- β 2 group Compared with siNC+TGF- β 2 group, RPE cell contraction was reduced in siSnail1+TGF- β 2 group TGF- β 2: transforming growth factor- β 2; ALK2: activin receptor-like kinase-2; Snail1: zinc finger protein transcription factor 1; GAPDH: glyceraldehyde-3-phosphate dehydrogenase; FN: fibronectin; α -SMA: α -smooth muscle actin; siNC: negative control small interfering RNA

表 3 各组 ALK2 和 Snail1 蛋白相对表达量比较 ($\bar{x}\pm s$)
Table 3 Comparison of ALK2 and Snail1 proteins expression among different groups ($\bar{x}\pm s$)

组别	样本量	ALK2 相对表达量	Snail1 相对表达量
阴性对照组	3	1.000±0.000	1.000±0.000
TGF-β2 刺激组	3	0.357±0.026 ^{ab}	5.033±0.393 ^{ab}
THR123 治疗组	3	0.757±0.039	1.833±0.203
<i>F</i> 值		142.40	69.55
<i>P</i> 值		<0.001	<0.001

注:与阴性对照组比较,^a*P*<0.01;与 THR123 治疗组比较,^b*P*<0.01 (单因素方差分析,Tukey 检验) ALK2:激活素受体样激酶-2;Snail1: 锌指蛋白转录因子 1;TGF-β2:转化生长因子 β2

Note: Compared with negative control group, ^a*P*<0.01; compared with THR123-treated group, ^b*P*<0.01 (One-way ANOVA, Tukey test) ALK2: activin receptor-like kinase-2; Snail1: zinc finger protein transcription factor 1; TGF-β2: transforming growth factor-β2

活性 BMP 包含 7 个半胱氨酸,第 7 个半胱氨酸和另一个单体聚合形成共价二硫键,成为有生物活性的信号分子^[25]。BMP 的 7-半胱氨酸结构域中有一个 3D 结构活性区域,包括指状区 1、踵区和指状区 2^[26]。许多 BMP 活性模拟肽的研发即从该活性区域入手,以设计合适的肽段。Sugimoto 等^[27]根据 BMP7 的 C-端 3D 活性成分设计合成了模拟多肽 THR123,通过静脉注射¹²⁵I 标记的 THR123,证实其激活 BMP7 的受体 ALK3 并可显著改善小鼠急/慢性肾病模型的肾脏纤

维化。故本研究以 THR123 作为 BMP7 模拟肽,探索其在 RPE 细胞 EMT 过程及兔 PVR 发生中的作用。

研究中已证实,TGF-β2 作用下,RPE 细胞中上皮标志物 E-Cadherin 表达下调,间质标志物 α-SMA 和 FN 表达上调,标志 EMT 的发生^[8,10]。收缩及迁移是 RPE 细胞 EMT 的重要功能改变,跨上皮电阻则可有效反映单层细胞培养模型中紧密连接的完整性^[28]。本研究显示,TGF-β2 可有效诱导体外培养的原代 RPE 细胞各标志物以及凝胶收缩、电阻减小;BMP7 模拟肽 THR123 可有效抑制 TGF-β2 引起的 RPE 细胞 E-Cadherin、FN、α-SMA 的改变,以及凝胶收缩、迁移、跨上皮电阻的改变。

Snail1 是转录因子家族 Snail 中的一员,参与调控 EMT。有研究表明 Snail1 与 E-Cadherin 启动子区的 DNA 片段 E-box 结合,抑制 E-Cadherin 的表达并启动 EMT^[29]。本研究结果表明,THR123 激活 BMP 通路会抑制下游 Snail1 表达。小分子抑制剂 LDN193189 是 BMP 通路 I 型膜受体 ALK2 的抑制剂^[30]。本研究结果表明,通过 LDN193189 抑制 BMP 通路会增加 Snail1 表达,并启动 EMT。本研究结果还表明通过 siRNA 抑制 Snail1 的表达会抑制 EMT 的发生。然而,BMP7 模拟肽 THR123 激活 BMP 信号通路后如何对下游转录因子 Snail1 进行调控仍需进一步研究。

表 4 阴性对照组与 LDN 抑制组细胞 Snail1 和 EMT 标志物相对表达量及功能指标比较 ($\bar{x}\pm s$)
Table 4 Comparison of expression of Snail1 and EMT markers and functional parameters between negative control and LDN inhibition groups ($\bar{x}\pm s$)

组别	样本量	凝胶收缩比例 (%)	跨上皮电阻值 ($\Omega \cdot \text{cm}^2$)	E-Cadherin 相对表达量	FN 相对表达量	α-SMA 相对表达量	Snail1 相对表达量
阴性对照组	3	95.667±2.848	193.700±2.402	1.000±0.000	1.000±0.000	1.000±0.000	1.000±0.000
LDN 抑制组	3	60.333±3.180	72.500±3.180	0.350±0.064	5.367±0.296	3.267±0.393	2.217±0.192
<i>t</i> 值		8.277	30.410	2.443	16.410	8.518	4.572
<i>P</i> 值		0.001	<0.001	<0.001	<0.001	0.005	0.003

注:(独立样本 *t* 检验) Snail1: 锌指蛋白转录因子 1;EMT: 上皮-间充质转化;E-Cadherin: E-钙粘素;FN: 纤连蛋白;α-SMA: α 平滑肌肌动蛋白
 Note: (Independent samples *t*-test) Snail1: zinc finger protein transcription factor 1; EMT: epithelial-mesenchymal transition; FN: fibronectin; α-SMA: α-smooth muscle actin

表 5 各转染组细胞 Snail1 和 EMT 标志物相对表达量和功能指标比较 ($\bar{x}\pm s$)
Table 5 Comparison of expression of Snail1 and EMT markers and functional parameters in cells between two transfection groups ($\bar{x}\pm s$)

组别	样本量	凝胶收缩比例 (%)	Snail1 相对表达量	E-Cadherin 相对表达量	FN 相对表达量	α-SMA 相对表达量
siNC+TGF-β2 组	3	81.667±1.667	1.000±0.000	1.000±0.000	1.000±0.000	1.000±0.000
siSnail1+TGF-β2 组	3	94.667±2.603	0.393±0.038	3.597±0.346	0.340±0.060	0.537±0.038
<i>t</i> 值		4.205	3.415	14.620	3.715	2.608
<i>P</i> 值		0.010	<0.001	0.002	<0.001	<0.001

注:(独立样本 *t* 检验) Snail1: 锌指蛋白转录因子 1;EMT: 上皮-间充质转化;E-Cadherin: E-钙粘素;FN: 纤连蛋白;α-SMA: α 平滑肌肌动蛋白; siNC: 阴性对照小干扰 RNA;TGF-β2: 转化生长因子-β2

Note: (Independent samples *t*-test) Snail1: zinc finger protein transcription factor 1; EMT: epithelial-mesenchymal transition; FN: fibronectin; α-SMA: α-smooth muscle actin; siNC: negative control small interfering RNA; TGF-β2: transforming growth factor-β2

综上, BMP7 模拟肽 THR123 可激活 BMP 受体 ALK2, 抑制效应因子 Snail1, 从而调控 RPE 细胞 EMT 及 PVR 进展。THR123 在活体内的作用机制有待进一步研究, 其作为作为 PVR 药物治疗靶点及安全性和给药方式等可能是未来的研究方向。

利益冲突 所有作者均声明不存在利益冲突

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