



嗜中性白细胞碱性磷酸酶炎症复合体的 激活与活性氧之间的关系

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【摘要】 炎症反应已被证明在脑缺血再灌注损伤中扮演了重要角色。炎症复合体(inflammasome)是胞浆中参与非特异性免疫的一种多蛋白复合物,其功能主要为识别外来或内源性的危险信号,进而激活含半胱氨酸的天冬氨酸蛋白水解酶-1(cysteiny aspartate specific proteinase-1,caspase-1),调节炎症因子如:白介素 1β (interleukin- 1β)、白介素18(IL-18)的表达。目前,在炎症复合体中,研究最广泛的是由嗜中性白细胞碱性磷酸酶-3(neutrophilic alkaline phosphatase-3,NALP3)、凋亡相关点样蛋白(apoptosis-associated speck-like protein,ASC)及caspase-1组成的NALP3炎症复合体。然而,调节其生成和激活的分子机制仍不清楚。近期研究显示,被NALP3激活物诱导产生的活性氧(reactive oxygen species,ROS)是活化NALP3炎症复合体必要的二级信号。该文就ROS与NALP3炎症复合体激活间的关系进行讨论。

【关键词】 嗜中性白细胞碱性磷酸酶-3;炎症复合体;活性氧;氧化应激

【中图分类号】 R966

【文献标识码】 A

文章编号:2095-1396(2013)05-0050-008

The Relationship between Reactive Oxygen Species (ROS) and Activation of Neutrophilic Alkaline Phosphatase 3 (NALP3) Inflammasome

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【ABSTRACT】 Inflammatory reaction has been proved to play an important role in the cerebral ischemia/reperfusion. Inflammasomes are a family of protein complexes that were recently identified as the cellular machinery responsible for recognizing pathogen-associated molecular patterns and reacting to these through activation of inflammatory processes, such as IL- 1β and IL-18. Among different types of inflammasomes, the neutrophilic alkaline phosphatase-3 (NALP3) inflammasome is the most studied. It is characterized as a proteolytic complex mainly composed of the neutrophilic alkaline phosphatase-3 (NALP3), the adaptor protein apoptosis-associated speck-like protein (ASC), and caspase-1. However, little is known on the molecular mechanisms that mediate its assembly and activation. Recent evidence suggests that reactive oxygen species (ROS) are produced by NALP3 activators and are essential secondary messengers signaling NALP3 inflammasome activation. This paper discussed the relationship between ROS and activation of NALP3 inflammasome.

【KEY WORDS】 neutrophilic alkaline phosphatase 3 (NALP3); inflammasome; reactive oxygen species (ROS); oxidative stress

基金项目:国家自然科学基金项目(No.81371287)

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脑血管疾病的发病机制涉及脑组织能量代谢障碍、兴奋性氨基酸毒性、自由基损伤、炎症反应等多个环节。其中,炎症反应已被证明在脑缺血再灌注损伤中扮演了重要角色^[1]。

在炎症复合体中,嗜中性白细胞碱性磷酸酶-3(neutrophilic alkaline phosphatase 3, NALP3)炎症复合体的研究最为广泛,但调节其生成和激活的分子机制仍不清楚。近期研究显示,被NALP3激活物诱导产生的活性氧簇(reactive oxygen species, ROS),是活化NALP3炎症复合体必要的二级信号。本文就ROS与NALP3炎症复合体激活间的关系进行讨论。

1 NALP3炎症复合体的结构与功能

NALP3炎症复合体是胞浆中参与非特异性免疫的一种多蛋白复合物,其功能主要为识别外源性或内源性的危险信号,从而激活免疫反应^[2]。

NALP3炎症复合体广泛存在于多种哺乳动物细胞中,它由NALP3、凋亡相关点样蛋白(apoptosis-associated speck-like protein, ASC)及含半胱氨酸的天冬氨酸蛋白水解酶-1(cysteiny aspartate specific proteinase-1, caspase-1)组成^[3]。NALP3炎症复合体可被细菌毒素^[4]、病原体相关分子模式(如:胞壁酸二肽)及其它刺激激活。NALP3炎症复合体同样可以识别多种相关性危险信号,如:三磷酸腺苷(adenosine triphosphate, ATP)^[5]、ROS^[6]、谷氨酸尿酸盐晶体^[7]、细胞内低钾、高钠^[8]及 β 淀粉样蛋白等,激活caspase-1^[9-10]。活化的caspase-1通过切割白介素1 β (interleukin-1 β , IL-1 β)的前体形式使IL-1 β 活化。活化的IL-1 β 与周围组织细胞膜上的IL-1 β 受体^[11-12]结合后导致多种炎症因子,如:IL-8、肿瘤坏死因子(tumor necrosis factor, TNF)及IL-17的释放^[13-14],进而引发炎症瀑布^[15-20](Fig.1)。

2 ROS的结构与功能

ROS是一类包含氧原子的自由基,包括过氧化氢(H_2O_2),超氧阴离子($O_2^{\cdot-}$),羟基($\cdot OH$)等,这些分子由于存在未配对的价电子,其性质非常活泼。动物体内的ROS主要来源于氧化代谢过程中,线粒体的电子传递链。此外多种活化的细胞酶,如:还原型烟酰胺腺嘌呤二核苷酸磷酸(reduced nicotinamide adenine dinucleotide phosphate, NADPH)氧化酶、黄嘌呤氧化还原酶、脂氧合酶及环氧酶等,同样可以生成ROS^[21]。

细胞中的ROS可调节多种重要的生理活动,如:氧感受(oxygen sensing)、血管再生、控制血管紧张性、调节细胞生长、分化及移行。此外,ROS还参与细胞的信号传导(如:氧化还原信号)。

ROS的持续作用会导致细胞损伤,为应对这一应激反应,许多酶展现出抗氧化的特性来拮抗ROS的氧化作用,其中包括:硫氧还蛋白(thioredoxin, TRX)、超氧化物歧化酶、谷胱甘肽过氧化物酶及过氧化氢酶。在细胞中,ROS的产生与抗氧化能力失衡的状态,称为氧化应激^[22]。在很多病理过程中,都存在ROS的过表达,如:衰老、高血压、动脉粥样硬化、癌症、缺血、神经退行性疾病及糖尿病等。

ROS的生成是调节非特异性免疫应答的关键。在植物中,病原体被识别后,NADPH以氧化依赖的方式产生ROS,进而引起氧化迸发(oxidative burst),导致超敏反应^[23]。同样,在脊椎动物炎症和免疫应答中,激活的吞噬细胞(如:中性粒细胞)产生ROS依赖性的呼吸爆发(respiratory burst),可直接对外来病原体产生毒性作用^[24]。

ROS还参与免疫系统的信号传递。损伤组织释放的ROS(如: H_2O_2)在组织周围浓度递减,诱导白细胞向损伤组织移行。可见ROS对于局部组织的炎症应答具有调控作用^[25]。在多种炎症信号通路中,ROS依然扮演了重要角色。由模式识别受体(pattern recognition receptor, PRR)或Toll样受体(toll-like receptors, TLRs)产生的ROS,可调节氧化还原调控转录因子(如:NF- κB 、AP-1)的激活及炎症因子的表达^[26-27]。近期研究显示,ROS与NALP3炎症复合体的激活有关^[28-29]。

3 NALP3炎症复合体的激活需要ROS的参与

炎症复合体的主要功能为调节炎症应答。因其识别病原体或危险信号的亚单位不同,又被分为多种亚型^[30]。其中研究最为广泛的是由NOD样受体(NOD-like receptor, NLR)蛋白NALP3所形成的NALP3炎症复合体。NALP3炎症复合体主要由NALP3, ASC及caspase-1组成^[30]。NALP3在病原体、应激或其他危险信号的刺激下被激活,招募转接蛋白ASC及caspase-1组成NALP3炎症复合体,进而使caspase-1活化,切割下游IL-1 β 的前体结构,使其转变为成熟的活化形式。活化的IL-1 β 与周围细胞膜上的IL-1 β 受体结合,诱发炎症反应^[31]。

目前已知的NALP3激活物,大都可诱导ROS的产生。使用抗氧化剂后,NALP3炎症复合体的激活受到抑制,提示ROS或氧化应激是激活NALP3炎症复合体的必要二级信号。

在动植物非特异性免疫中,胞外ATP均作为一个炎症信号出现^[32]。哺乳动物中,胞外ATP与P2X7受体结合,可激活NALP3炎症复合体^[33]。用ATP干预巨噬细胞,可导致ROS迅速生成,使用广谱还原型烟

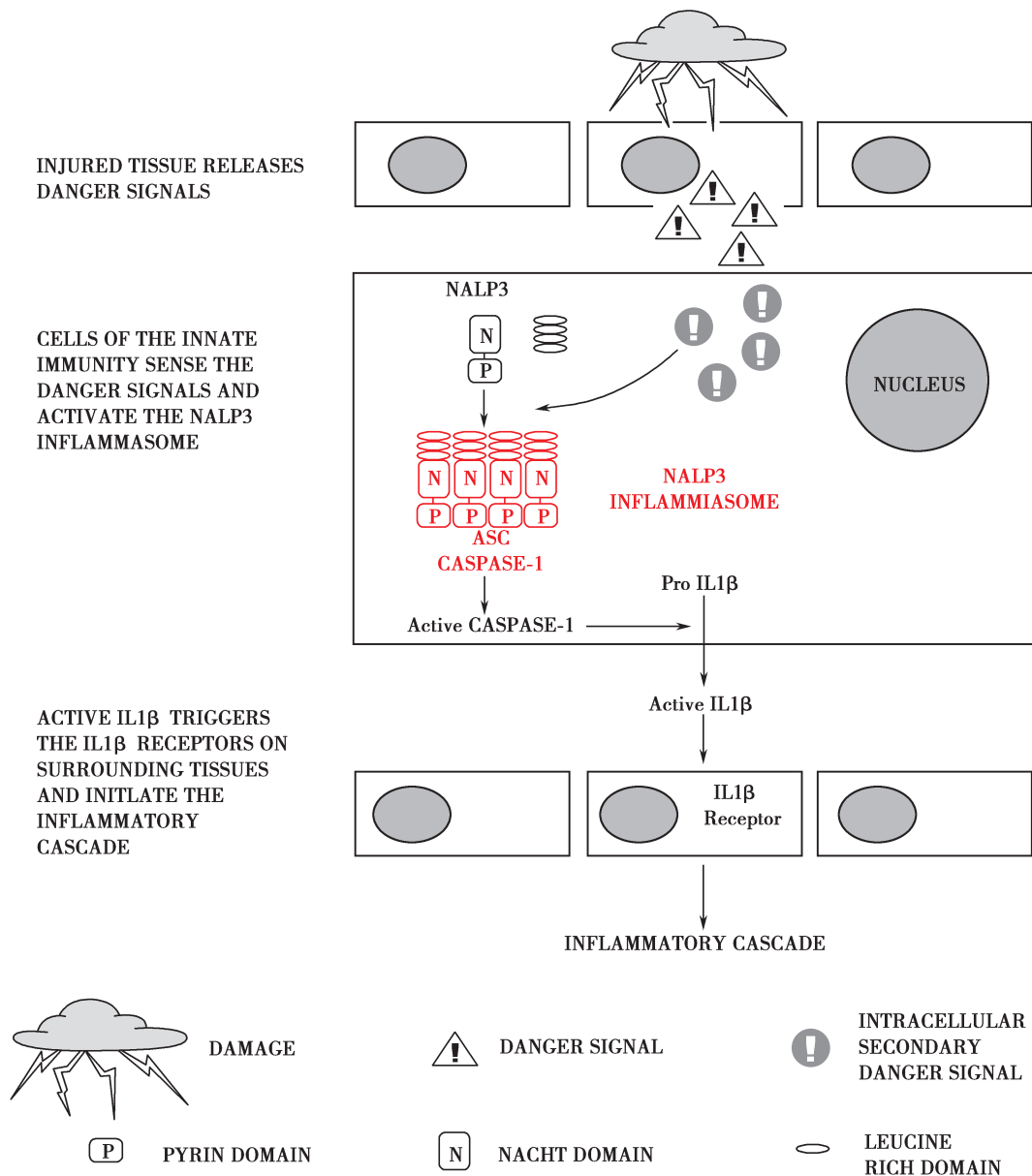


Fig.1 Model of danger signals activation of the neutrophilic alkaline phosphatase 3 (NALP3) inflammasome

Tissue injury leads to the formation and release of danger signals such as ATP or uric acid crystals that are recognized by the innate immune system. A number of these signals mediate a potassium efflux or other secondary intracellular danger signals that are required for NALP3 inflammasome activation^[16-17]. NALP3 inflammasome then oligomerizes to recruit the adaptorapoptosis-associated speck-like protein (ASC) and caspase-1^[18]. Activation of caspase-1 results in the processing and maturation of pro IL-1 β into its biologically active form, active IL-1 β ^[10,19]. Active IL-1 β will then trigger the IL-1 β receptor, leading to the activation of multiple cytokines involved in the inflammation cascade^[20].

酰胺腺嘌呤二核苷酸磷酸氧化酶(NADPH oxidase, NOX)抑制剂二苯基碘(diphenylene iodonium, DPI)后, caspase-1 的激活受到抑制^[34-35]。NALP3 激活物:尿酸晶体、明矾、葫芦素 D 和金属离子等,均可以诱导 ROS 的生成^[36-39]。此外,在暴露于二氧化硅或石棉的巨噬细胞中,可迅速检测到 ROS^[37,40-42]。其他 NALP3 激活物,如:尼日利亚菌毒素、紫外线及皮肤致敏剂(如:二硝基氯苯),同样可诱发细胞内氧化还原反应失衡,进而激活炎症复合体^[35,43-44]。ROS 的产生同样与可激活 NALP3 的疟疾致病性晶体、疟原虫色素、流感病毒及白色酵母念珠菌有关^[45-47]。

4 NALP3 激活物促进 ROS 生成

现已发现 NALP3 激活物可通过多种途径调节 ROS 的生成。但具体 NALP3 激活物是如何导致 ROS 产生的,其机制仍不清楚。NALP3 激活物最显著的特点是可以导致细胞内钾离子外流,胞质中钾浓度降低^[48]。在植物细胞中,钾离子外流已被证实与 ROS 的生成有关^[49]。这一结论,同样在人体粒细胞中得到印证^[50]。因此推测,由 NALP3 激活物导致的钾离子外流是产生 ROS 的主要原因之一。

某些 NALP3 激活物(如:尿酸晶体、明矾、石棉及二氧化硅)由于结构较大,细胞吞噬困难(frustrated phagocytosis),可滞留在细胞表面被吞噬细胞识别后引发炎症反应。研究证实,这一过程同样有 ROS 的参与,然而其具体机制仍不清楚^[51-52]。“吞噬困难”并不是巨噬细胞感受危险信号的唯一途径。超微结构研究显示,少量尿酸晶体被吞噬后与吞噬溶酶体结合,对细胞膜产生破坏作用,可导致胞质内容物的外漏^[53]。释放的多种水解酶,可对周围组织造成破坏,吸引更多的吞噬细胞参与到免疫反应中来。这一结果与先前石英晶体及明矾可导致溶酶体破坏的观点相一致^[54-55]。此外,溶酶体损伤后释放的组织蛋白酶 B 参与了炎症复合体的激活^[54]。溶酶体损伤及组织蛋白酶 B 的释放可促进 ROS 的生成。这一结论已在肝细胞和神经细胞中得以证实^[56-57]。

众多证据表明 ROS 的生成与 NALP3 激活物 NOX 有关。NOX 是跨膜转运酶家族中的一员,通过将电子由胞质电子供体(如:NADPH)跨膜转移到电子受体(如:氧气),在胞外或细胞腔隙产生 ROS^[58]。应用 NOX 抑制剂(如:DPI)可抑制炎症复合体的激活。同样,在动物实验中,DPI 可抑制应激状态下小鼠 caspase-1 对 IL-18 的激活作用^[59]。可见,NOX 确与 ROS 的生成有关。

近期研究显示,除 NOX 之外,NOX 抑制剂依然存在其他靶点。因为基因敲除 NOX 之后,DPI 仍可对线

粒体中 ROS 的生成产生抑制作用^[60]。此外,细胞外的 ATP 可诱导胞质中的 NOX 组件(p47phox, p40phox, p67phox 及 p21rac)移位于胞膜上的 NOX2,形成激活的大分子复合体^[35]。在 NOX2 缺乏的巨噬细胞中,ATP 介导的 ROS 的生成减少,从而证实 NOX2 或许与 ATP 介导的 NALP3 炎症复合体的激活有关^[61]。相对的,在其他 NALP3 激活物(包括尿酸晶体和二氧化硅)刺激下的 NOX2 缺乏的巨噬细胞中,炎症复合体的激活不受影响^[54]。同时,基因敲除 p22phox,可抑制单核细胞株 THP1 中,疟原虫色素、硅尿酸晶体和石棉对炎症复合体的激活作用^[37,62]。p22phox 的缺乏可影响多种 NOX,包括 NOX1, NOX2, NPX3 和 NOX4^[58],提示 ROS 的产生,及 NALP3 炎症复合体的激活受多种 NOX 的调节。

综上所述,许多应用抗氧化剂的研究显示 NALP3 激活物诱导产生的 ROS,可促进炎症复合体形成。然而,ROS 的产生及 ROS 激活炎症复合体的具体机制,仍不十分清楚。接下来的研究应着眼于吞噬困难、组织蛋白酶 B、钾外流和 NOX 对 ROS 生成及炎症复合体激活的协同促进作用。

5 ROS 对 NALP3 的激活

由 H₂O₂ 产生的 ROS 可激活炎症复合体^[37]。此外,敲除 TRX 可使由二氧化硅、尿酸晶体及石棉诱导的 IL-1b 的表达上调^[62]。这些发现提示氧化应激可有效激活 NALP3^[63]。ROS 既可以直接诱导炎症复合体的生成,又可以被调节炎症复合体激活的胞质蛋白间接识别。由 ATP 介导生成的 ROS 可激活 PI3K 通路,应用 PI3K 抑制剂可抑制 ATP 介导的 caspase-1 的激活,从而显示 PI3K 可能与炎症复合体的激活及 ROS 的生成有关^[34]。

近期研究显示,在氧化应激中,硫氧还蛋白结合蛋白/维生素 D 上调蛋白 1(thioredoxin-interacting protein/vitamin D up-regulated protein 1, TXNIP/VDUP1)蛋白可直接激活 NALP3。该研究作者指出,在静息状态下, TXNIP/VDUP1 与 TRX 相互作用,使其不能激活 NALP3。氧化应激时, TRX 被氧化,被释放的 TXNIP 与 NALP3 亮氨酸结构域(leucine-rich region)相结合,诱导炎症复合体的形成。在基因敲除 TXNIP/VDUP1 的巨噬细胞中,由胞外 ATP 或尿酸晶体的介导的 caspase-1 及 IL-1b 的表达减少。这一结果显示, TXNIP/VDUP1 对 NALP3 的激活作用可调节 NALP3 炎症复合体的生成,以应对过度应激或危险信号刺激。

6 结语

近年研究发现,脑缺血再灌后脑组织中 NALP3 炎症复合体及 IL-1b 的表达水平显著升高^[15]。而与传统 PRR 直接识别致病因子的机制不同,NALP3 可识别组织病理损伤后出现的氧化应激^[64],这一机制与植物免疫机制相同。病原体介导的植物细胞内的生理改变可激活 R 基因,一个非特异性免疫感受器家族,以应对感染,其结构与 NALP3 相似^[65]。虽然 ROS 激活炎症复合体的机制尚不清楚,但 ROS 在调节 NALP3 激活的过程中确实起到了重要作用。ROS 对炎症复合体形成及炎症应答的调节,是适当免疫反应及组织修复的关键。这与 ROS 在激活 NALP3 中扮演的角色相一致。在 M2 极化的巨噬细胞中,抑制 ROS 的产生,可导致炎症复合体的激活受到抑制^[66]。另一方面,持续的氧化应激刺激,可抑制炎症介质(如:caspase-1)的产生^[67],从而提示,氧化应激不仅仅能激活 NALP3,更是 IL-1b 激活的反馈调节中的一部分。

胞浆中先天免疫受体是治疗促炎因子过表达相关性疾病的重要靶点^[68]。我们实验室研究了 NALP3 炎症复合体在脑缺血-再灌介导的炎症应答中的作用,并进一步研究了大黄酚抗炎及神经保护作用及机制^[15]。我们的研究表明,大黄酚可干预脑缺血-再灌后脑组织中 NALP3 炎症复合体的生成及 IL-1b 的表达,降低行为学评分,减少脑梗死面积,减轻脑水肿,改善血脑屏障通透性,对局灶性脑缺血具有神经保护作用,其保护作用可能与抑制 NALP3 炎症复合体的表达,下调 IL-1b 的表达有关^[69]。

氧化应激造成的组织损伤还存在于多种疾病当中(如:糖尿病、神经退行性疾病等),其病理过程均有炎症的参与^[69-70]。对氧化应激与炎症复合体间相关机制的研究,将为脑缺血再灌注损伤等炎症相关性疾病的治疗带来新的思路。

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