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# 评估慢性意识障碍患者的垂体结构变化、激素状态特征和中枢神经系统功能状态的实验室标记物

Ekaterina A. Kondratyeva<sup>1</sup>, Alina O. Ivanova<sup>2</sup>, Maria I. Yarmolinskaya<sup>2,3</sup>, Elena G. Potyomkina<sup>1</sup>, Natalya V. Dryagina<sup>1</sup>, Natalya N. Zybina<sup>4</sup>, Nelly Yu. Andreeva<sup>2</sup>, Anatoly N. Kondratyev<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Polenov Neurosurgical Institute, Almazov National Medical Research Center, Saint Petersburg, Russia;

<sup>2</sup> Research Institute of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductology named after D.O. Ott, Saint Petersburg, Russia;

<sup>3</sup> North-Western State Medical University named after I.I. Mechnikov, Saint Petersburg, Russia;

<sup>4</sup> Nikiforov Russian Center of Emergency and Radiation Medicine, Saint Petersburg, Russia

**论证。**意识觉醒是一种觉醒的状态,是对自我和环境的意识。意识障碍是损害意识的病理的结果。制定有效的、复杂的、个性化的、有助于急性创伤性脑损伤、缺氧后慢性意识障碍患者意识恢复的综合措施,是现代康复中最紧迫、最复杂的任务之一。

本研究的**目的**是研究慢性意识损害患者的脑垂体结构变化,血液中促性腺激素和褪黑素水平,以及血液和脑脊液中脑损伤标志物,并对不同组别患者根据意识受损程度的上述指标水平进行分析。

**材料与方**法。对61例患者进行了检查。根据意识水平的不同,他们被分为三组:在有反应性觉醒综合症的植物人状态—24个病人;处于最小意识状态“是”反应—24个病人,处于最小意识状态“不是”反应—13个病人。对患者行蝶鞍交叉区磁共振成像;测定血清中促卵泡激素、促黄体生成素、褪黑素水平及尿中6-硫氧基褪黑素水平;测定血清和脑脊液中脑源性神经营养因子(BDNF)、细胞凋亡抗原(Apo-1)、Fas-L、谷氨酸、S100水平。

**结果。**对年龄在15至61岁的患者进行检查。意识方面的患者在年龄和检查时慢性意识损害的持续时间上是相同的。无论意识水平如何,患者脑下垂体的体积没有差异。血清褪黑素水平及尿褪黑素代谢物水平在不同意识水平组间无显著差异。54.5%的患者在凌晨3点出现褪黑素分泌高峰,可视为意识进一步恢复的良好预后标志。34%的患者发现促性腺功能不全,其余患者发现正常促性腺功能不全。低意识状态患者血清Apo-1和脑源性神经营养因子(BDNF—brain-derived neurotrophic factor)水平明显高于植物人状态/反应性觉醒综合征患者。植物人状态/反应性觉醒综合征的妇女脑脊液中的谷氨酸水平明显低于最低意识状态的病人。

**结论。**对慢性意识受损患者的进一步深入检查和数据积累,可能使我们能够识别预测预后的高信息指标,以及开发这类患者意识康复的新有效方法。

**关键词:**慢性意识障碍;最小意识状态;卵巢机能不全;交叉细胞区磁共振成像;脑神经营养因子;细胞凋亡抗原(Apo-1);Fas-L;谷氨酸;S100蛋白质

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# Evaluation of structural variations in the pituitary gland, hormonal status and laboratory markers of the central nervous system functioning in patients with chronic disorders of consciousness

Ekaterina A. Kondratyeva<sup>1</sup>, Alina O. Ivanova<sup>2</sup>, Maria I. Yarmolinskaya<sup>2,3</sup>, Elena G. Potyomkina<sup>1</sup>, Natalya V. Dryagina<sup>1</sup>, Natalya N. Zybina<sup>4</sup>, Nelly Yu. Andreeva<sup>2</sup>, Anatoly N. Kondratyev<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Polenov Neurosurgical Institute, Almazov National Medical Research Center, Saint Petersburg, Russia;

<sup>2</sup> Research Institute of Obstetrics, Gynecology, and Reproductology named after D.O. Ott, Saint Petersburg, Russia;

<sup>3</sup> North-Western State Medical University named after I.I. Mechnikov, Saint Petersburg, Russia;

<sup>4</sup> Nikiforov Russian Center of Emergency and Radiation Medicine, Saint Petersburg, Russia

**BACKGROUND:** Consciousness is the state of being awake and aware of oneself and the environment. The disorders of consciousness result from pathologies that impair awareness. The development of effective comprehensive personalized interventions contributing to the recovery of consciousness in patients with chronic disorders of consciousness is one of the most pressing and challenging tasks in modern rehabilitation.

**AIM:** The aim of this study was to understand structural problems of the pituitary gland, blood levels of gonadotropins and melatonin as well as brain damage markers in the blood and cerebrospinal fluid in patients with chronic disorders of consciousness and to analyze the levels of the above markers among different groups of patients depending on the level of impaired consciousness.

**MATERIALS AND METHODS:** We examined 61 chronic disorders of consciousness patients and identified three groups depending on the level of consciousness including 24 patients with unresponsive wakefulness syndrome, 24 patients with a minus minimally conscious state, and 13 patients with minimally conscious state plus. We performed magnetic resonance imaging of chiasmatic-sellar region and determined blood serum levels of follicle-stimulating and luteinizing hormones and melatonin, as well as urinary level of 6-sulfatoxymelatonin and the content of brain derived neurotrophic factor (BDNF), apoptosis antigen (APO-1), FasL, glutamate, and S100 protein in the blood serum and cerebrospinal fluid.

**RESULTS:** The patients were examined in the age ranging from 15 to 61 years old. Patient groups were homogeneous by the level of consciousness in terms of age and duration of chronic disorders of consciousness by the time of examination. The patients did not differ in the pituitary volume regardless of the level of consciousness. No significant differences were found between the groups with different levels of consciousness when studying the levels of melatonin in the blood serum and its metabolite in the urine. A peak in melatonin secretion was detected at 3 a.m. in 54.5% of the patients, which can be considered as a favorable prognostic marker for further recovery of consciousness. Hypogonadotropic ovarian failure was found in 34% of the patients, with normogonadotropic ovarian failure in the remaining patients. Serum APO-1 and BDNF levels were significantly higher in patients with minimally conscious state relative to those with unresponsive wakefulness syndrome. Significantly lower levels of glutamate in the cerebrospinal fluid were detected in women with unresponsive wakefulness syndrome compared to patients with minimally conscious state.

**CONCLUSIONS:** Further in-depth examination and accumulation of data on patients with chronic disorders of consciousness may provide an opportunity to identify highly informative markers for predicting outcomes and to develop new effective approaches to rehabilitation of consciousness in this category of patients.

**Keywords:** chronic disorders of consciousness; minimally conscious state; gonadotropic function; ovarian failure; magnetic resonance imaging of chiasmatic-sellar region; brain-derived neurotrophic factor; apoptosis antigen APO-1; FasL; glutamate; S100 protein.

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# Оценка структурных изменений гипофиза, особенностей гормонального статуса и лабораторных маркеров функционального состояния центральной нервной системы у пациенток с хроническим нарушением сознания

Е.А. Кондратьева<sup>1</sup>, А.О. Иванова<sup>2</sup>, М.И. Ярмолинская<sup>2,3</sup>, Е.Г. Потемкина<sup>1</sup>, Н.В. Дрягина<sup>1</sup>, Н.Н. Зыбина<sup>4</sup>, Н.Ю. Андреева<sup>2</sup>, А.Н. Кондратьев<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> Российский научно-исследовательский нейрохирургический институт им. проф. А.Л. Поленова, филиал Национального медицинского исследовательского центра им. В.А. Алмазова, Санкт-Петербург, Россия;

<sup>2</sup> Научно-исследовательский институт акушерства, гинекологии и репродуктологии им. Д.О. Отта, Санкт-Петербург, Россия;

<sup>3</sup> Северо-Западный государственный медицинский университет им. И.И. Мечникова, Санкт-Петербург, Россия;

<sup>4</sup> Всероссийский центр экстренной и радиационной медицины им. А.М. Никифорова, Санкт-Петербург, Россия

**Обоснование.** Сознание — это состояние бодрствования и осознания себя и окружающей среды. Расстройства сознания возникают в результате патологий, нарушающих осознание. Разработка эффективных комплексных персонализированных мероприятий, способствующих восстановлению сознания у пациентов с хроническим нарушением сознания, — одна из самых актуальных и сложных задач в современной реабилитации.

**Цель** — изучить структурные изменения гипофиза, уровень гонадотропинов и мелатонина в крови, а также маркеров повреждения головного мозга в крови и спинномозговой жидкости у пациенток с хроническим нарушением сознания и проанализировать уровни вышеуказанных маркеров среди разных групп пациенток в зависимости от уровня нарушения сознания.

**Материалы и методы.** Обследована 61 пациентка, выделены три группы в зависимости от уровня сознания: в вегетативном состоянии с синдромом ареактивного бодрствования — 24 пациентки, в состоянии минимального сознания «минус» — 24 пациентки, в состоянии минимального сознания «плюс» — 13 пациенток. Выполнена магнитно-резонансная томография хиазмально-селлярной области; определены уровни фолликулостимулирующего, лютеинизирующего гормонов и мелатонина в сыворотке крови и 6-сульфатоксимелатонина в моче; нейротрофического фактора мозга (BDNF), антигена апоптоза (APO-1), FasL, глутамата, S100 в сыворотке крови и спинномозговой жидкости.

**Результаты.** Обследованы пациентки в возрастном диапазоне от 15 до 61 года. Группы пациенток по уровню сознания были однородны по возрасту и по продолжительности хронического нарушения сознания к моменту обследования. У пациенток вне зависимости от уровня сознания отличия в объеме гипофиза отсутствовали. Значимых различий между группами с разным уровнем сознания при исследовании уровня мелатонина в сыворотке крови и его метаболита в моче не обнаружено. Выявлен пик секреции мелатонина в 03:00 у 54,5 % пациенток, что можно рассматривать как благоприятный прогностический маркер для дальнейшего восстановления сознания. У 34 % пациенток обнаружена гипогонадотропная недостаточность яичников, у остальных пациенток — нормогонадотропная недостаточность яичников. Уровни APO-1 и BDNF в сыворотке крови были значительно выше у пациенток в состоянии минимального сознания, чем у пациенток в вегетативном состоянии / с синдромом ареактивного бодрствования. Был достоверно снижен уровень глутамата в спинномозговой жидкости у женщин в вегетативном состоянии / с синдромом ареактивного бодрствования по сравнению с пациентками в состоянии минимального сознания.

**Заключение.** Дальнейшее углубленное обследование и накопление данных о пациентках с хроническим нарушением сознания может позволить определить высокоинформативные маркеры для прогнозирования исходов, а также разработки новых эффективных подходов к реабилитации сознания у данной категории больных.

**Ключевые слова:** хроническое нарушение сознания; состояние минимального сознания; овариальная недостаточность; магнитно-резонансная томография хиазмально-селлярной области; нейротрофический фактор мозга (BDNF); антиген апоптоза (APO-1); FasL; глутамат; белок S100.

## Как цитировать:

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## 论证

意识觉醒是一种觉醒的状态,是对自我和环境的意识[1]。意识障碍是损害意识的病理的结果。制定有效的、复杂的、个性化的、有助于急性创伤性脑损伤(TBI)、缺氧后慢性意识障碍(PDC)患者意识恢复的综合措施,是现代康复中最紧迫、最复杂的任务之一。慢性意识障碍(PDC)是在昏迷后发展的一种状态,伴随觉醒的恢复而没有完全恢复意识活动,一般来说,在脑损伤后超过28天[1]。由于慢性意识障碍患者广泛分布在不同类型的机构和医疗专业,而且有些人还住在家里,因此很难确定慢性意识损害的患病率。据统计,美国每100万人中有46人患有慢性意识障碍,英国每100万人中有14人患有慢性意识障碍[2]。在俄罗斯联邦,目前还没有关于慢性意识障碍患者数量的统计数据[3]。

本研究的目的是研究慢性意识障碍患者的脑垂体结构变化,血液中促性腺激素和褪黑素水平,以及血液和脑脊液中脑损伤标志物。根据意识受损程度,分析不同组患者上述指标的内容:处于最小意识状态(MCS)“不是”反应,无反应觉醒综合征—植物人状态/无反应觉醒综合征(VS/UWS)的状态。

## 材料与方 法

该研究是在以The V.A. Almazov National Medical Research Center的国家医学研究中心分支机构的Russian Research Neurosurgical Institute named after Professor A. Polenov的基础上进行的。该研究包括61例患有慢性意识障碍的患者。根据意识水平将患者分为三组:无反应觉醒综合征—植物人状态/无反应觉醒综合征为24例,MCS“不是”反应为24例,MCS“是”反应为13例。

对临床、实验室和功能研究方法的资料进行了分析。在昏迷恢复量表上对每个患者进行五次评估后诊断为意识障碍[4,5]。

在1.5特斯拉磁场感应的Signa Exite 1.5 t (GE)磁共振成像仪上对交叉细胞区域进行磁共振成像。矢状面和冠状面采用T1和T2模式。在解释研究结果时,评估垂体的大小和体积,特别注意结构变化的类型和程度。

在月经少或闭经的背景下进行激素研究,测定血液中的激素水平:黄体生成素(LH),促卵泡激素(FSH)上免疫化学发光分析仪Immulite 1000

(DPC,德国),试剂制造商西门子。内部质量控制采用Lyphochek Immunoassay Plus control,11级,2级,3级,Bio-Rad的制造商。

为了测定6-羟基硫酸褪黑素的浓度,收集每日尿液,分成每日(上午8点—中午12点)和夜间(晚上12点—上午8点)。采用6-羟基硫酸褪黑素固相酶免疫测定(Buhlmann Laboratories AG,瑞士)测定尿中6-硫氧基褪黑素的浓度。每天6次采血以测定褪黑激素水平:分别在上午8点、下午3点、晚上6点、晚上9点、晚上12点和凌晨3点进入装有凝血激活剂的试管中。采用一套褪黑激素ELISA试剂(IBM INTERNATIONAL GMBH,德国),采用固相酶免疫测定(EIA)测定血清中褪黑激素的浓度。色谱柱作为试剂盒的一部分提供(C18 RP 1 cm<sup>3</sup>/100 mg)用于提取。酶免疫测定按说明书在微孔板上进行。血清褪黑素参考值:凌晨3点为18.5—180 pg/ml,上午8点为3.8—80.4 pg/ml。尿中6-羟基硫酸褪黑素参考值:夜间>8 mcg,日间>3 mcg,一天>20 mcg。

采用Personal Lab (Adalt,意大利)全自动酶免疫分析仪检测血清和脑脊液中脑神经营养因子(BDNF)、细胞凋亡抗原(SAPO-1)、细胞凋亡受体配体(Fas-L)、谷氨酸、S100的水平。使用CanAg S100试剂(S100总亚型 $\alpha\beta + \beta\beta$ ) (Fujirebio Diagnostics AB,瑞典),用酶免疫法测定S100蛋白浓度。采用谷氨酸酶联免疫吸附法(IBM America,美国)测定谷氨酸浓度。用Human Free BDNF试剂(R&D Systems,美国)研究BDNF的浓度。凋亡受体SAPO-1/Fas的检测采用Human SAPO-1/Fas ELISA试剂盒(Invitrogen,奥地利)。采用Human sFas Ligand ELISA(Invitrogen,奥地利)试剂盒评估sFas-L的浓度。

**统计技术。** 统计数据处理在Statistica 10程序中进行。样本分布参数采用Kolmogorov-Smirnov准则进行评估。采用Kruskal-Wallis标准计算非参数分布数据中定量参数间差异的统计学意义。以 $p < 0.05$ 的显著性水平拒绝各组均值相等的假设。

## 结果

患者年龄为15至61岁,平均年龄为28.8±9.5岁。意识方面的患者在年龄[第一组平均年龄为29±10.8岁,第二组为29.9±8.8岁,第三组为26.3±7.9岁(统计学处理—Kruskal-Wallis检验, $p=0.43$ )]和检查时慢性意识损害的持续时间

[第一组为 $5.2 \pm 4.6$ 个月, 第二组为 $4.5 \pm 4.5$ 个月, 第三组为 $3.5 \pm 3.4$ 个月(统计学处理—Kruskal-Wallis检验,  $p=0.42$ )]上是相同的。

根据磁共振成像数据, 脑下垂体的大小由公式 $V = 1/2 abc$ 确定, 其中 $a$ 为脑下垂体的垂直大小,  $b$ 为脑下垂体的水平大小,  $c$ 为脑下垂体的矢状大小。根据各组患者的计算结果, 无论意识水平如何, 脑下垂体的体积没有差异: 第一组为 $0.36 \pm 0.12 \text{ cm}^3$ , 第二组为 $0.39 \pm 0.16 \text{ cm}^3$ , 第三组为 $0.37 \pm 0.1 \text{ cm}^3$  (统计学处理—Kruskal-Wallis检验,  $p=0.85$ )。

对11例患者进行血清褪黑素水平及昼夜尿褪黑素代谢物检测。患者年龄17至43岁, 平均年龄为 $26.5 \pm 9$ 岁, 意识障碍持续时间1至15个月, 平均为3个月, 检查时无反应觉醒综合征—植物人状态/无反应觉醒综合征组有7例, 最小意识状态组有4例。根据意识水平将患者分为两组: 第一组为最小意识状态患者, 平均年龄为 $28.3 \pm 9.1$ 岁(24至41岁), 意识障碍持续时间为 $5.8 \pm 5.4$ 个月(1至15个月),

促卵泡激素为 $3.9 \pm 0.9 \text{ IU/L}$  (最低值为 $3.1 \text{ IU/L}$ , 最高值为 $4.8 \text{ IU/L}$ ), 促黄体激素的水平为 $2.2 \pm 1.8 \text{ IU/L}$  (最低值为 $0.26 \text{ IU/L}$ , 最高值为 $5 \text{ IU/L}$ ); 第二组为无反应觉醒综合征—植物人状态/无反应觉醒综合征患者, 平均年龄为 $25.4 \pm 9.5$ 岁(17至43岁), 意识障碍持续时间为 $1.6 \pm 1.5$ 个月(1至2个月), 促卵泡激素水平为 $3.6 \pm 3 \text{ IU/L}$  (最低值为 $0.33 \text{ IU/L}$ , 最高值为 $8.46 \text{ IU/L}$ ); 促黄体激素的水平为 $2.8 \pm 2.2 \text{ IU/L}$  (最低值为 $0.2 \text{ IU/L}$ , 最高值为 $7.3 \text{ IU/L}$ )。

研究血清褪黑素水平(表1), 对无反应觉醒综合征—植物人状态/无反应觉醒综合征患者与最小意识状态患者进行对比分析。

第一组日间尿褪黑素代谢物水平为 $3.8 \pm 1.2 \text{ ng/ml}$ , 第二组为 $13.1 \pm 12.8 \text{ ng/ml}$  ( $p=0.8$ ); 第一组夜间尿量为 $5.1 \pm 0.1 \text{ ng/ml}$ , 第二组为 $16.7 \pm 9.2 \text{ ng/ml}$  ( $p=0.49$ )。在血清和尿液褪黑素水平的研究中, 不同意识水平组间无显著差异(统计处理采用Mann-Whitney标准)。

表1 慢性意识障碍患者血清褪黑素水平

测量时间	VS/UWS患者褪黑素水平, pg/ml	MCS患者褪黑素水平, pg/ml	$p$ (组间差异)
下午3点	8.3	4.2	0.38
晚上6点	8.4	2.1	0.7
晚上9点	7.4	1.6	0.37
半夜12点	35.6	1.1	0.36
凌晨3点	71.6	1.5	0.9
上午6点	17.4	21.2	0.2

注: MCS—最小意识状态; VS/UWS—无反应觉醒综合征—植物人状态/无反应觉醒综合征。

表2 慢性意识障碍患者血清褪黑素水平, ng/ml

病人的号码	测量时间					
	下午3点	晚上6点	晚上9点	半夜12点	凌晨3点	上午6点
1	5.23	7.67	7.19	4.97	19.1	1.5
2	9.22	3.86	9.17	6.03	56.3	254
3	0.5	0.74	1.88	9.72	148	3.64
4	67.7	69	11.1	7.32	36.4	88.7
5	19.2	16.7	13.3	92.1	47.8	47.1
6	21.5	29.4	22.5	58.4	803	403
7	-	4.04	12	15	10.1	22.5
8	4.17	2.1	1.6	1.08	1.52	21.2
9	-	2.03	-	102	120	27.1
10	6.64	11.1	5.63	112	67.6	124
11	13.7	36.1	25.5	29.7	14.2	4.47

6例患者在凌晨3点检测到褪黑素分泌高峰,其中VS/UWS为3例,MCS为3例(表2)。

26例患者年龄为17—43岁(平均年龄为 $26.5 \pm 9$ 岁),11例有MCS,15例有VS/UWS。9例(34.6%)患者出现促性腺功能低下卵巢功能不全:促卵泡激素水为 $1.3 \pm 0.4$  IU/L(0.3至1.7 IU/L),促黄体激素的水平为 $0.5 \pm 0.4$  IU/L(0.1至2.0 IU/L),其余患者卵巢促性腺功能不全为正常:促卵泡激素水为 $5.1 \pm 2$  IU/L(2.7至9.7 IU/L),促黄体激素的水平为 $2.3 \pm 2.2$  IU/L(0.26至7.3 IU/L)。在这组患者中未检测到高促性腺功能不全。促卵泡激素、促黄体激素含量比较,各组意识水平无差异:VS/UWS组促卵泡激素水平为 $4.6 \pm 3$  IU/L(0.33—9.67),促黄体激素水平为 $2.5 \pm 2.5$  IU/L(0.16—7.3);MCS组促卵泡激素水平为 $3.1 \pm 1.7$  IU/L(1.18—7.06),促黄体激素水平为 $1.05 \pm 1.2$  IU/L(0.1—5)(Mann-Whitney标准, $p=0.2$ ;  $p=0.14$ )。

9例17至41岁(平均年龄为 $26 \pm 8$ 岁)患者血清Apo-1(也被称为CD95凋亡受体)水平测定,VS/UWS组为4例,MCS组为5例。Apo-1水平低于测试系统制造商指示的参考值(1334—2411 pg/ml):在55.6%的病人—从363.6到887 pg/ml(平均值 $689.5 \pm 199.6$  pg/ml),33.3%的女性Apo-1水平是在参考价值,平均为 $1776.7 \pm 346.3$  pg/ml,一位患者中,该指标是正常水平高80倍,为194755 pg/ml。不同意识水平组(VS/UWS和MCS)APO-1水平分别为 $640 \pm 191.9$ 和 $40194.5 \pm 86403.2$  pg/ml,差异有统计学意义( $p=0.037$ )。

研究了10例17至41岁(平均年龄为 $26 \pm 8$ 岁)的患者血清BDNF水平,其中VS/UWS组为5例,MCS组为5例。BDNF水平为8540至49820 pg/ml(平均值为 $22742 \pm 12423.1$  pg/ml)。在所有患者中,BDNF水平高于检测系统制造商给出的参考值(42.58—6186 pg/ml)。不同意识水平(VS/UWS和MCS)组间BDNF水平分别为 $15832 \pm 6443.5$ 和 $29652 \pm 13651.4$  pg/ml,差异有统计学意义( $p=0.025$ )。

因此,MCS患者血液中Apo-1和BDNF水平明显高于VS/UWS患者。

所有患者的脑脊液中Apo-1和BDNF水平均低于检测范围。

测定了9例17至41岁患者(平均年龄为 $26 \pm 8$ 岁)血清Fas-L水平,其中VS/UWS组为4例,MCS

组为5例女性。根据检测系统制造商给出的参考值,外周血中没有检测到Fas-L。Fas-L水平范围为0.02至0.36 ng/ml(平均值为 $0.21 \pm 0.1$  ng/ml)。不同意识水平组(VS/UWS和MCS)间Fas-L水平无显著差异:分别为 $0.2 \pm 0.1$ 和 $0.236 \pm 0.1$  ng/ml( $p=0.39$ )。

对8例17至43岁患者(平均年龄为 $26 \pm 10$ 岁)的脑脊液Fas-L水平进行了检测,VS/UWS组为4例,MCS组为4例。Fas-L水平范围为0.032至0.176 ng/ml(平均值为 $0.08 \pm 0.06$  ng/ml)。不同意识水平组(VS/UWS和MCS)间Fas-L水平差异无统计学意义,分别为 $0.07 \pm 0.06$ 和 $0.09 \pm 0.06$  ng/ml( $p=0.56$ )。

测定了10例17至41岁妇女(平均年龄为 $26 \pm 8$ 岁)血清谷氨酸水平,VS/UWS组为5例,MCS组为5例。50%的患者谷氨酸水平高于参考值,范围为30.2至44.3 mcg/ml(平均值为 $36.7 \pm 6.4$  mcg/ml)。不同意识水平组(VS/UWS和MCS)谷氨酸水平差异无统计学意义,分别为 $25 \pm 10.8$ 和 $31.7 \pm 9.6$  mcg/ml( $p=0.59$ )。

本文对9例17至43岁(平均年龄为 $28 \pm 10$ 岁)患者的脑脊液谷氨酸水平进行了研究,其中VS/UWS组为5例,MCS组为4例女性。谷氨酸水平范围为1.6至17.2 mcg/ml(平均值为 $3.8 \pm 5$  mcg/ml)。不同意识水平的组之间存在显著差异:VS/UWS组脑脊液谷氨酸水平为 $1.9 \pm 0.2$  mcg/ml,明显低于MCS组( $6.2 \pm 7.3$  mcg/ml), $p=0.019$ 。

1例31岁VS/UWS患者,3例脑脊液患者(2例VS/UWS患者,1例MCS患者,年龄分别为28岁、31岁和45岁)测定血清中S100蛋白水平。血清中S100蛋白水平为22.7 ng/L,脑脊液中S100蛋白水平为434.3 ng/L。

## 讨论

### 慢性意识障碍患者的激素检查

科学文献提出了一些致力于研究慢性意识障碍患者的激素状况的工作。本文报道了1989年日本研究人员对33例VS/UWS患者经释放因子刺激后的激素检查(黄体生成素、促卵泡激素、促甲状腺激素、皮质醇、催乳素)。发现与常模有显著偏差:67%的患者黄体生成素水平发生了变化,卵泡刺激素(45%),皮质醇(39%),促甲状腺激素(36%),催乳素(15%)。所有患者垂体前叶激素分泌均受损,其中52%的患者变化最为明显。已经建

立了异常发生频率与VS/UWS住院时间之间的直接关系。作者认为VS/UWS患者垂体前叶功能受损,并在未来中进行性恶化[6]。

大量的出版物致力于创伤性脑损伤后急性期患者的激素检查。M. Klose等人获得的促性腺激素值与女性年龄明显相关,即未发现促性腺激素过低卵巢功能不全[7]。Z. Olivecrona等人在损伤后的第1—4天测定促性腺激素水平。然而,他们并没有提供月经周期的数据,也没有提供被检查的女性服用激素类药物的数据。女性黄体生成素、卵泡刺激素和雌二醇水平普遍较低[8]。一些类似的研究也证实了这些数据[9—11]。

国内研究人员首次发现育龄慢性意识障碍患者存在正常或低促性腺功能不全[12]。发表了两例输卵管妊娠后慢性意识损害的临床病例。根据激素和仪器研究的结果,1例患者被诊断为促性腺激素低下型正常泌乳素血症性卵巢功能不全,第2例正常促性腺激素低下型正常泌乳素血症性卵巢功能不全[13]。

## 褪黑激素

由于慢性意识障碍患者睡眠和觉醒周期节律性的保留,许多研究都致力于对这组患者的睡眠进行研究。褪黑激素是一种负责人体昼夜节律产生的激素。

昼夜节律是由下丘脑的视交叉上核内源性产生的。褪黑激素作为一种内源性同步剂,能够稳定和增强昼夜节律。此外,褪黑素具有抗氧化、抗炎、抑瘤和抗惊厥作用,并参与阻断细胞凋亡过程[14]。

褪黑激素的产生存在内源性的每日节律,其峰值出现在半夜2点—凌晨4点左右[15]。

研究表明,慢性意识障碍患者在表现生理睡眠和对外界时间变化的反应能力方面存在很大的差异。假设昼夜节律的保持可以作为VS/UWS患者代偿生理状态的一个积极的预后标志物和指标[16]。2014年首次在VS/UWS患者和健康志愿者中对6例患者(4例男性,年龄为 $33.3 \pm 9.3$ 岁,2例女性,年龄为38和47岁)进行褪黑激素分泌比较研究。这项研究是连续两个晚上进行的:第一天,从晚上10点到上午8点,所有受试者蒙住眼睛躺在昏暗的房间(55勒克斯)的床上;第二天,患者暴露于可有效抑制褪黑激素分泌的单色(470 nm)蓝光下。VS/UWS组患者夜间褪黑素抑制试验时血浆褪黑素水平无明显变化[17]。

A.A. Belkin等人研究了10例慢性意识障碍患者动态的褪黑激素水平[18]。血液中褪黑素水平与神经系统状况的改善有一定的正相关。

M. Kanarskii等人发表了一项研究结果,分析了22名慢性意识障碍患者和11名健康志愿者的褪黑激素水平。他们发现褪黑激素的数量和意识水平之间有直接关系( $rs=0.86, p<0.05$ )。这项研究还揭示了低褪黑激素水平与脑损伤的严重程度之间的相关性,脑损伤可能是由一种变性机制造成的视网膜损伤[19]。

在F. Gobert等人的一项研究中,在24小时内,两名慢性意识障碍患者每2小时进行一次磺胺褪黑素尿采样。科学家们发现了昼夜节律的放松。7—8个月后,进行了重复的神经系统评估,这些患者进入了MCS。作者预测,在昼夜节律调节后,可能有一种摆脱慢性意识障碍的方法[20]。

## 脑神经营养因子(BDNF)

神经营养因子是在神经系统功能、调节细胞增殖、分化、神经元存活和死亡过程中发挥重要作用的蛋白质,参与神经元可塑性的机制。

BDNF是一种神经营养因子,参与调节细胞群的生长、发育、分化和生存,以及它们对外部影响的适应过程[21]。

神经营养因子,如BDNF,可以促进神经元的生存和死亡,这取决于各种生理因素和病理条件。成人中的BDNF促进神经发生,并通过原肌球蛋白受体激酶(Trks)激活生存信号的传递[22,23],其前体proBDNF与神经营养因子受体p75(p75NTR)结合,p75NTR是一种类似于肿瘤坏死因子受体的分子。ProBDNF激活神经营养因子p75受体可在各种条件下引起神经元凋亡[24,25]。值得注意的是,p75NTR在突触发生——大脑发育和创伤后时期广泛表达。它在创伤性脑损伤(包括创伤性脑损伤和脑缺氧)后被激活,相关的过度表达会导致神经元死亡。

BDNF的表达对应激、创伤、低血糖、缺血和脑损伤等影响敏感,并受大量药理学药物调控,其靶点为多种神经递质系统[26]。科学家认为,BDNF信号的代谢、运输或传递的遗传和表观遗传控制障碍有助于许多神经和精神疾病的发展,包括阿尔茨海默病[27,28]、亨廷顿病[29]、帕金森病[30]、神经性疼痛[31]、精神分裂症[32]、重度抑郁症[33],成瘾[34]。

BDNF参与大脑神经元和突触的重组。在创伤性脑损伤的动物模型中, BDNF在海马和大脑皮层中激活表达[35, 36]。有研究表明, 创伤性脑损伤后, 脑内BDNF分泌立即下降, 创伤性脑损伤预后最差的患者BDNF水平下降更多[36—38]。

S. Bagnato等人[39]比较了18例VS/UWS和MCS患者的血清BDNF水平。对照组为16名性别、年龄相同的健康人群。对12例VS/UWS患者、最小意识状态患者(7男5女, 平均年龄为38.9岁)和健康志愿者(9男7女, 平均年龄为38.6岁)垂直化前后血清BDNF水平与ErigoPro机器人下肢训练进行了比较。VS/UWS和最小意识状态患者(中位数为1141 pg/ml; 第25和75百分位数为1016和1704 pg/ml)血清BDNF水平明显低于对照组(中位数为2450 pg/ml; 第25和75百分位为2100和2875 pg/ml;  $p < 0.001$ )。在有慢性意识障碍的患者组和健康患者中, 垂直化前后测量的BDNF水平没有变化( $p = 0.5$ )。此外, VS/UWS和最小意识状态的患者之间BDNF水平没有差异( $p = 0.2$ ), 创伤性和非创伤性脑损伤患者之间的BDNF水平没有差异( $p = 0.6$ )。BDNF水平与脑损伤后的时间呈正相关( $p = 0.025$ )。

E. G. Yazeva等人测定了慢性意识障碍患者的BDNF水平。主要组包括26例, 男性—16例, 女性—10例, 平均年龄为27岁, 23至41岁; VS/UWS组为14例, MCS组为12例。对照组包括21名健康志愿者。两组的年龄可比。健康志愿者血清BDNF水平平均为54 pg/ml (40—62 pg/ml), 慢性意识障碍患者血清BDNF水平显著升高( $p < 0.01$ )—770 pg/ml (640—950 pg/ml)。VS/UWS患者血清BDNF水平与最小意识状态无显著差异[40]。

根据我们的研究结果, 在最小意识状态的患者血液中BDNF水平明显高于VS/UWS。

### 凋亡抗原1 (Apo-1 Fas受体)

Apo-1是一个CD95分化簇, 肿瘤坏死因子受体超家族成员。Fas受体位于细胞表面, 其活化导致细胞凋亡。创伤性脑损伤后细胞死亡的机制尚不完全清楚。细胞凋亡被认为是脑外伤后神经元细胞显著和长期丢失的机制之一。本研究对10例重型颅脑损伤患者(4女生、6男生, 年龄为18—65岁)伤后15天每天检测脑脊液和血清中Apo-1水平。对照组由5名健康志愿者组成。脑脊液中未检测到Apo-1, 脑外伤后患者血清中Apo-1浓度从56 mEd/ml升高到4327 mEd/ml。Fas介导

的凋亡通路的激活可能部分是初始损伤的直接结果。然而, 脑脊液中sFas水平的长期升高可能是由对损伤的持续炎症反应和延迟的凋亡细胞死亡引起的[41]。

根据我们获得的数据, VS/UWS患者血液中Apo-1水平高于最低意识状态。脑脊液中未检测到Apo-1。

### Fas-L

Fas-L是一种与凋亡受体Apo-1(又名Fas, 又名CD95)结合的分子, 触发细胞程序性死亡过程, 即Fas-L是一种凋亡诱导因子。由于其作用, 该蛋白破坏组织, 参与某些疾病的发病机制, 并在肿瘤过程、创伤性脑损伤等疾病中发现其水平升高。最近发现Fas-L也可以传递非凋亡信号。间充质干细胞是来自成人各种组织的多能细胞。虽然来自不同组织的间充质干细胞具有共同的特性, 但它们也具有组织特异性的特性。既往研究表明, Fas-L间充质骨髓干细胞在体内和体外均可引起大量细胞凋亡。研究Fas-L诱导人脂肪组织干细胞的反应[42]。这些细胞对Fas-L的反应是同时凋亡和增殖, 这导致了细胞数量的加倍和表型的转变, 包括CD105表达的减少和CD73表达的增加, 同时增加了骨分化的潜力。当用新鲜分离的干细胞处理时, 形成大集落的成纤维细胞的数量增加, 可能是由早期干细胞的祖细胞产生的。发现Fas-L诱导的细胞凋亡和增殖信号相互独立。因此, Fas-L信号在干细胞中的传递导致其扩增, 表型向更强的干细胞状态转移。假设在组织损伤和炎症过程中, 这些反应确保了来自脂肪组织的干细胞祖细胞在富含Fas-L的环境中存活, 它们还可以增加这些细胞在体内的存活率。

另一项研究表明, 用EIA法研究了创伤性脑损伤小鼠的大脑皮层、丘脑和海马区Fas-L的表达, 并利用图像分析系统对结果进行了评价。用液体冲击法伤小鼠, 伤后15、30分钟、1、3、6、12小时、1、4、7、14天处死。在损伤后一小时检测到Fas-L的表达, 3小时后显著增加, 在损伤后12小时达到最大值, 然后在4天后逐渐降低, 在损伤后14天恢复正常[42]。Fas-L介导的细胞凋亡不仅发生在脑损伤周围, 也发生在远离创伤区域的脑组织中。Fas-L的表达规律可作为脑损伤的标志物之一。

在我们的研究中, 最小意识状态和VS/UWS患者的血、脑脊液Fas-L水平无显著差异。



## 谷氨酸

谷氨酸是一种神经递质,在突触中谷氨酸含量的增加会导致临床上类似于肌萎缩性侧索硬化症的疾病。严重创伤性脑损伤后,突触谷氨酸水平立即升高[43]。突触中过量的谷氨酸反过来会激活相应的N-甲基-D-天冬氨酸(NMDA)和 $\alpha$ -氨基-3-羟基-5-甲基-4-异噁唑丙酸(AMPA)受体,这导致钙过量流入神经元细胞。发生氧化应激,导致线粒体功能障碍、脂质过氧化、蛋白质和DNA氧化。因此,神经细胞的死亡发生在[44]。外伤性脑损伤后,谷氨酸调节作用障碍也与重症抑郁症的发生有关[45]。

A.L. Yassen等人的研究表明,在9例脑外伤后立即和恢复2个月期间,用质子磁共振波谱法测定了脑内谷氨酸的浓度[46]。对照组为9例健康志愿者,性别、年龄、体重、身高均可比较。各组之间谷氨酸值相同( $p=0.57$ ),但随着时间的推移差异显著( $p=0.01$ )。创伤性脑损伤组在创伤后72小时内谷氨酸浓度低于对照组( $p=1.02$ )。作者认为,脑内谷氨酸浓度的变化可能是局部的,并取决于创伤性脑损伤后的时间。

在我们的研究中,我们发现VS/UWS患者的脑脊液中谷氨酸水平有显著差异,其值低于最小意识状态的患者。这可能是由于长期的慢性意识障碍造成的。VS/UWS患者在1—12个月(平均 $4\pm 3$ 个月)处于慢性意识障碍状态,而患者处于最小意识状态为1至6个月(平均 $3\pm 2$ 个月)。

## S100蛋白组

S100蛋白是一组低分子量的钙结合蛋白。S100蛋白的含量在慢性脑缺血发展的初始阶段增加,反映了脑组织中慢性神经退行性过程[47]。这组蛋白是细胞生长分化、转录、蛋白磷酸化、分泌、肌纤维收缩等过程所必需的。它们调控细胞周期和凋亡,参与肿瘤发生过程。在大脑中,S100组蛋白主要由星形胶质细胞产生。在纳米摩尔浓度下,体外S100刺激胚胎鸡大脑皮层神经元和后根神经节的神经突生长[48,49]。提示S100可能是神经发育和再生过程中的神经营养因子。

创伤性脑损伤时,血液和脑脊液中S100蛋白水平升高[49,50]。通过测定血液中S100的浓度,可以诊断创伤性脑损伤患者的严重病变,此外,该标志物水平较低且创伤性脑损伤严重程度较轻的患者不能进行脑CT检查,从而避免高达30%的不必要研究。科学家发现,S100蛋白水平的增

加超过0.1微克/升,是脑部CT病理改变的敏感标志[51]。

由于缺乏特异性和外周血中存在S100蛋白的脑外来源,限制了其诊断价值。此外,在损伤和烧伤等颅外病理患者中也检测到血清S100水平升高[52]。对94例患者进行了研究,发现血清中S100浓度与颅脑损伤严重程度无相关性[53]。在此之前,该标记物在慢性意识障碍患者中未被研究,需要进一步研究。

## 结论

根据对不同意识受损程度的患者进行脑垂体磁共振成像检查的结果,我们没有发现各组之间脑垂体体积有显著差异。也没有脑下垂体的容积形成和其他可能导致卵巢功能不全的原因。根据激素研究,卵巢功能有低促性腺激素不足和正常促性腺激素不足,但在分析促性腺激素含量时,不同意识水平组间无显著差异。不同意识水平组间血清、尿褪黑素水平的研究差异无统计学意义。然而,一些接受检查的患者保留了夜间褪黑激素分泌高峰,根据文献,这可能表明进一步恢复意识的高潜力。在50%的患者中,Apo-1的水平低于正常值,在一个患者中,这一指标上升了80倍。最小意识状态患者血清Apo-1和BDNF水平明显高于VS/UWS。所有患者血清中均检测到Fas-L,其水平升高可能是由于对损伤的持续炎症反应和延迟凋亡所致。50%的患者谷氨酸水平高于参考值,但只有1例女性有外伤性脑损伤,2例外伤性脑损伤后谷氨酸水平在正常值范围内。不同意识水平组(VS/UWS和MCS)血清谷氨酸水平无明显变化。VS/UWS患者脑脊液中的谷氨酸水平明显低于最低意识状态的患者。很可能,我们可以判断,与VS/UWS相比,处于最小意识状态的患者的神经元和星形胶质细胞的活性增加,神经可塑性更强。S100蛋白水平仅在少数人群中测定,因此有必要对该标记物进行深入研究。

进一步的研究和数据积累对慢性意识障碍患者和高信息标记物的预测结果,以及开发新的有效的方法来康复这类患者的意识。

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## AUTHORS INFO

**Ekaterina A. Kondratyeva**, MD, Dr. Sci. (Med.);  
 ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6362-6543>;  
 Scopus Author ID: 57191545581;  
 eLibrary SPIN: 6966-3270;  
 e-mail: eak2003@mail.ru

## ОБ АВТОРАХ

**Екатерина Анатольевна Кондратьева**, д-р мед. наук;  
 ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-6362-6543>;  
 Scopus Author ID: 57191545581;  
 eLibrary SPIN: 6966-3270;  
 e-mail: eak2003@mail.ru

## AUTHORS INFO

**\* Alina O. Ivanova**, MD;  
address: 3 Mendeleevskaya Line,  
Saint Petersburg, 199034, Russia;  
ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0792-3337>;  
Researcher ID: AAL-4500-2020;  
eLibrary SPIN: 5573-6990;  
e-mail: ivanova\_ao93@mail.ru

**Maria I. Yarmolinskaya**, MD, Dr. Sci. (Med.), Professor,  
Professor of the Russian Academy of Sciences;  
ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6551-4147>;  
Researcher ID: P-2183-2014;  
Scopus Author ID: 7801562649;  
eLibrary SPIN: 3686-3605;  
e-mail: m.yarmolinskaya@gmail.com

**Elena G. Potyomkina**, MD, Dr. Sci. (Med.);  
ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0449-9163>;  
eLibrary SPIN: 1422-2553;  
e-mail: potemkina25@rambler.ru

**Natalya V. Dryagina**, MD, Cand. Sci. (Med.);  
ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8595-6666>;  
eLibrary SPIN: 1916-2139; Scopus Author ID: 35773283500;  
e-mail: nvdryagina@mail.ru

**Natalya N. Zybina**, MD, Dr. Sci. (Med.), Professor;  
ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5422-2878>;  
eLibrary SPIN: 5164-2969;  
e-mail: zybinan@inbox.ru

**Nelly Yu. Andreeva**, MD;  
ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1928-1266>;  
eLibrary SPIN: 3355-2646;  
e-mail: nelly8352@yahoo.com

**Anatoly N. Kondratyev**,  
MD, Dr. Sci. (Med.), Professor;  
ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7648-2208>;  
e-mail: eak2003@mail.ru

## ОБ АВТОРАХ

**\* Алина Олеговна Иванова**;  
адрес: Россия, 199034, Санкт-Петербург,  
Менделеевская линия, д. 3;  
ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0792-3337>;  
Researcher ID: AAL-4500-2020;  
eLibrary SPIN: 5573-6990;  
e-mail: ivanova\_ao93@mail.ru

**Мария Игоревна Ярмолинская**, д-р мед. наук,  
профессор, профессор РАН;  
ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-6551-4147>;  
Researcher ID: P-2183-2014;  
Scopus Author ID: 7801562649;  
eLibrary SPIN: 3686-3605;  
e-mail: m.yarmolinskaya@gmail.com

**Елена Геннадьевна Потемкина**, д-р мед. наук;  
ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0003-0449-9163>;  
eLibrary SPIN: 1422-2553;  
e-mail: potemkina25@rambler.ru

**Наталья Владимировна Дрягина**, канд. мед. наук;  
ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0001-8595-6666>;  
eLibrary SPIN: 1916-2139; Scopus Author ID: 35773283500;  
e-mail: nvdryagina@mail.ru

**Наталья Николаевна Зыбина**, д-р мед. наук, профессор;  
ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-5422-2878>;  
eLibrary SPIN: 5164-2969;  
e-mail: zybinan@inbox.ru

**Нелли Юрьевна Андреева**;  
ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-1928-1266>;  
eLibrary SPIN: 3355-2646;  
e-mail: nelly8352@yahoo.com

**Анатолий Николаевич Кондратьев**,  
д-р мед. наук, профессор;  
ORCID: <https://orcid.org/0000-0002-7648-2208>;  
e-mail: eak2003@mail.ru

\* Corresponding author / Автор, ответственный за переписку