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细胞因子研究在COVID-19相关肺炎中的预后作用

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绪论2019新型冠状病毒 (COVID-19) 通常伴有细胞因子风暴综合征。尽管许多白细胞介素具有预测价值, 但单一标记物的敏感性和特异性是有限的。

该研究的目的是建立一个客观和内容丰富性的细胞因子风暴量表, 用于评估COVID-19相关肺炎患者发生关键病程的风险。

材料与方我们研究了226例COVID-19病例, 其中36例 (16%) 因该病死亡。细胞因子IL-1b、IL-2、IL-6、IL-8、IL-10、IL-18, α 肿瘤坏死因子, α -干扰素, γ -干扰素采用VektorBest (俄罗斯) 生产的商业试剂盒进行酶免疫分析。

结果。因为IL-6、IL-10、IL-18和降钙素原水平与疾病的严重程度和死亡相关, 这些分数被整合成一个12分的量表, 称为细胞因子风暴量表。得分超过6分的患者有疾病不良结局的高风险。ROC分析显示, 细胞因子风暴量表的曲线下面积均大于四种标志物的曲线下面积[AUC 0.90 (95% CI 0.8455 - 0.9592), $p < 0.001$]。

结论。因此, 细胞因子风暴规模与COVID-19病程不良预后风险的信息含量相当高。

关键词: SARS-CoV-2; 细胞因子风暴; IL-6; IL-18; IL-10; 原降钙素; 细胞因子风暴量表。

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Prognostic value of cytokines in COVID-19 associated pneumonia

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BACKGROUND: Coronavirus disease 2019 (COVID-19) is often complicated by cytokine storm syndrome. Although many interleukins (IL) have predictive value, the sensitivity and specificity of a single marker is limited.

AIM: The purpose of the study is to develop an objective and informative cytokine storm scale for assessing the risk of developing a critical course in patients with COVID-19 associated pneumonia.

MATERIALS AND METHODS: A total of 226 cases of COVID-19 were investigated, 36 (16 %) of which were with poor outcomes. The cytokines IL-1b, IL-2, IL-6, IL-8, IL-10, IL-18, TNF- α , IFN α , IFN- γ were studied by enzyme immunoassay, commercial kits manufactured by Vector-Best, RF.

RESULTS: Since IL-6, IL-10, IL-18, and procalcitonin were associated with disease severity and death, these indicators were integrated into a 12-point scale called the cytokine storm scale. The patients who scored more than 6 points had a high risk of a poor outcome of the disease. According to ROC analysis, the area under the curve for the cytokine storm scale was larger than for each of the four markers separately [AUC 0.90 (95% CI 0.8455–0.9592), $p < 0.001$].

CONCLUSIONS: Thus, the cytokine storm scale system presents superior performance in determining patients with favorable and fatal outcomes to each individual cytokine.

Keywords: SARS-CoV-2 coronavirus; cytokine storm; interleukin 6; interleukin 18; interleukin 10; procalcitonin; cytokine storm scale.

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Прогностическая роль исследования цитокинов при COVID-19-ассоциированной пневмонии

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Введение. Коронавирусное заболевание 2019 г. (COVID-19) часто осложняется синдромом цитокинового шторма. Хотя многие интерлейкины обладают прогностической ценностью, чувствительность и специфичность одного маркера ограничена.

Цель исследования — разработать объективную и информативную шкалу цитокинового шторма для оценки риска развития критического течения у пациентов с COVID-19-ассоциированной пневмонией.

Материалы и методы. Было изучено 226 случаев COVID-19, 36 (16 %) из которых с неблагоприятным исходом. Исследованы цитокины — интерлейкин-1b, -2, -6, -8, -10, -18, фактор некроза опухоли- α , интерферон- α , интерферон- γ — методом иммуноферментного анализа с помощью коммерческих наборов производства Вектор-Бест (Россия).

Результаты. Поскольку уровни интерлейкинов-6, -10, -18 и прокальцитонина были связаны с тяжестью заболевания и летальным исходом, эти показатели были интегрированы в 12-балльную шкалу, названную шкалой цитокинового шторма. Пациенты, набравшие более 6 баллов, имеют высокий риск неблагоприятного исхода заболевания. Согласно ROC-анализу площадь под кривой для шкалы ЦШ оказалась больше, чем для каждого из четырех маркеров по отдельности [AUC 0,90 (95 % ДИ 0,8455–0,9592), $p < 0,001$].

Заключение. Таким образом, шкала цитокинового шторма обладает достаточно высокой информативностью в отношении риска неблагоприятного прогноза течения COVID-19.

Ключевые слова: коронавирус SARS-CoV-2; цитокиновый шторм; интерлейкин-6; интерлейкин-18; интерлейкин-10; прокальцитонин; шкала цитокинового шторма.

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绪论

2019年12月,中国首次报告由SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19)引起的新型冠状病毒感染,随后传播到世界各国。COVID-19患者多为无症状病程或轻度/中度急性呼吸道疾病。但部分患者的感染可进展为间质性肺炎和急性呼吸窘迫综合征,特别是老年患者和伴有疾病者[1,2]。SARS-CoV-2感染可影响胃肠道、肝脏、胰腺功能,引起神经系统症状(嗅觉丧失),影响心血管系统,导致肾功能受损。在重症患者中,功能限制往往持续较长时间。

由于病毒的遗传特征和毒力因素,干扰素的延迟合成发生在疾病的早期阶段,SARS-CoV-2清除中断、NETosis(细胞死亡程序)和细胞焦亡增加,这为严重病程并伴有细胞因子风暴综合征创造了背景[3-5]。细胞因子风暴综合征的一个显著特征是一种不受控制的免疫反应,包括淋巴细胞和巨噬细胞的不断激活。大量合成细胞因子,即白细胞介素-6(IL-6)、白细胞介素-8(IL-8)、白细胞介素-1 β (IL-1 β)、白细胞介素-18(IL-18)、 α 肿瘤坏死因子(TNF),导致上皮和内皮肺细胞凋亡,微血管和上皮细胞屏障损伤,导致肺泡水肿和缺氧。虽然目前尚不清楚COVID-19中细胞因子风暴的成因,但细胞因子风暴的形成与疾病的发病机制密切相关,其发展与预后差、重症病毒性肺炎有关。

虽然许多细胞因子具有预测价值,但确定单一标记物的敏感性和特异性是有限的。多种生物标志物的结合可以提高实验室评估的准确性,而将细胞因子整合到单一诊断量表中可以提高对不良结局的预测。本研究评估了各种细胞因子在重症疾病中的作用,并试图创建一个细胞因子风暴量表,以评估COVID-19相关肺炎患者发展关键病程的风险。

表1 COVID-19患者的人口学和临床特征

Table 1. Demographic and clinical characteristics of the patients with COVID-19

特征	所有患者 (n = 226)	康复 (n = 190)	死亡 (n = 36)	p (恢复vs死亡)
人口特征				
年龄45岁以下, % (n)	17.8 (41)	18.9 (36)	8.3 (3)	<0.05
45-65岁, % (n)	50.4 (114)	52.6 (100)	30.5 (11)	<0.05
65-85岁, % (n)	31.4 (71)	26.8 (51)	58.3 (21)	<0.05
男性, % (n)	61.0 (138)	60.5 (115)	63.8 (23)	无p值
体重指数, kg/m ²	29.41 (25.9-33.8)	29.7 (26.2-34.2)	27.9 (24.9-31.96)	无p值
临床表现				
温度, °C	38.9 (38.5-39)	39.0 (38.3-39.1)	38.8 (38.5-39.0)	无p值
咳嗽	69.9 (158)	70.5 (134)	66.6 (24)	<0.0001
胸痛、胸闷	137 (31)	13.1 (25)	16.6 (6)	<0.05
腹泻	11 (25)	12.1 (23)	5.55 (2)	<0.05
嗅觉缺失症	18.58 (42)	21.57 (41)	2.7 (1)	<0.05

注: 无p值一无统计学意义。

材料与方法

2020年5月25日至2020年7月25日圣彼得堡冠状病毒感染的第一波流行期间,共检查226例COVID-19相关肺炎患者,其中36例(16%)因该病死亡。所有患者住院期间均通过咽和鼻咽拭子的聚合酶链反应检测SARS-CoV-2核酸确诊COVID-19。收集了人口统计学特征、临床表现、实验室和放射学研究结果,以及SOFA和NEWS2严重程度量表的值。评估患者病情严重程度方案NEWS2包含了每分钟呼吸频率、氧饱和度(%)、需氧量、体温、收缩压、心率、意识水平变化等指标。SOFA评分包括呼吸功能(P_aO₂/FiO₂)、凝血功能(血小板10³/mL)、肝脏(胆红素,mmol/L)、心血管系统(低血压)、中枢神经系统(Glasgow昏迷评分)、肾脏(肌酐,mmol/L或利尿)。对照组为30例(5例男性,25例女性),年龄为36-52岁。

入院后第一天上午采集静脉血。细胞因子IL-1b、IL-2、IL-6、IL-8、IL-10、IL-18、 α 肿瘤坏死因子, α -干扰素, γ -干扰素的浓度采用VectorBest(俄罗斯)商用试剂盒进行酶免疫测定。

我们使用Graphpad Prism 8.3软件进行统计分析。连续变量和分类变量分别用中位数(IQR)和n(%)表示。Mann-Whitney U检验、 χ^2 检验或Fisher精确检验用于比较连续变量和分类变量。通过测量ROC曲线下面积(AUROC)来确定细胞因子浓度和细胞因子风暴尺度的预测值。

结果

研究组包括138例(61%)男性和88例(39%)女性,平均年龄为56.82 \pm 13.9岁(23-87岁)。45岁以下患者死亡人数为3例(7.31%),45-65岁患者为12例(10.5%),与此同时,65-85岁患者的死亡率最高(21-58.3%)。42%患者的身体质量指数(BMI)超过

30kg/m²。女性BMI为33.0±1.4 kg/m², 显著高于男性(29.3±0.7 kg/m²) ($p<0.01$)。

所有检查患者均有38°C以上发热、咳嗽(158-69.9%)、胸痛、胸闷(137-31%)。腹泻(11-25%)和嗅觉缺失(18.5-42%)在COVID-19病程较好的患者中更为常见。

伴随病理的患病率为70%, 高血压占57.8% ($n=130$), 冠心病占27% ($n=61$), 糖尿病占16.2% ($n=36$), 慢性心力衰竭占8.6% ($n=19$)。9.6% ($n=21$)的患者有活跃期癌症, 3.7% ($n=8$)有3期或其他慢性肾病。值得注意的是, 在危重患者和有致命结局的患者中发现了高频率的伴生疾病(图1)。慢性肾病、冠心病和癌症与死亡直接相关。

为了评估疾病结局的预后, 我们对实验室数据进行了分析, 发现COVID-19死亡患者与存活患者之间存在显著差异(表2)。因此, 在死亡患者中, 白细胞增多明显更常见[26例(72%)比55例(28.9%); $p<0.001$], 淋巴细胞减少[25例(69.4%)比69例(36%); $p<0.001$]。死亡患者的白细胞和中性粒细胞平均数量明显高于康复患者, 淋巴细胞和血小板平均数量明显低于康复患者(见表2)。一些生化指标和凝血指标之间也存在显著差异。值得注意的是, 36例死亡患者中有16例(44%), 190例康复患者中有53例(27%)d二聚体浓度高于1000 ng/ml。死亡患者血C反应蛋白和铁蛋白含量明显高于康复组(分别为60比144 mg/L和605比1243 mcg/L)。

促炎性标志物和细胞因子

肺炎患者中IL-2、IL-1b、 α 肿瘤坏死因子的浓度明显高于健康捐赠者, 但死亡和存活患者之间无差异。在大多数肺炎患者中, γ -干扰素和 α -干扰素的浓度是检测不到的。血浆中IL-6、IL-10和IL-18浓度升高

表2 COVID-19康复患者和死亡患者的实验室参数

Table 2. Laboratory indicators of the patients recovered from COVID-19 and of the patients with fatal outcomes

实验室指标	康复	死亡	p
常见临床检验指标			
血小板, $\times 10^9/L$ (150-400)	257 (168-347)	215 (126.5-287.3)	<0.05
白细胞, $\times 10^9/L$ (4.00-8.80)	7.16 (4.99-10.43)	12.89 (9.76-16.23)	<0.0001
中性粒细胞, $\times 10^9/L$ (2.20-4.80)	5.6 (3.32-8.87)	11.64 (7.45-14.11)	<0.0001
淋巴细胞, $\times 10^9/L$ (1.2-2.5)	1.00 (0.8-1.6)	0.7 (0.42-1.4)	<0.05
生化参数			
葡萄糖, mmol/L (3.90-6.10)	6.8 (6.05-8.05)	8.5 (6.85-11.85)	<0.0001
乳酸脱氢酶, U/L (0.0-248.0)	351 (262-467)	591 (391-891)	<0.0001
肌酐, $\mu\text{mol/L}$ (53-115)	87 (76-102)	116 (82-226)	<0.0001
肾小球滤过率, ml/min/1.73m ² (>90)	72 (60-85)	34 (12.45-64.50)	<0.0001
凝血参数			
凝血酶原时间, s (11.5-14.5)	11.6 (11-12.65)	13 (12-14)	<0.001
活化部分凝血活酶时间, s (27.0-37.0)	32 (28.4-36)	37 (30-53.6)	<0.001
d二聚体, ng/ml (<500)	812 (473-1451)	3096 (627.3-9422)	<0.001
C反应蛋白, mg/l (0.01-5.00)	60 (19.67-135.9)	144 (50.20-244)	<0.0005
铁蛋白, mcg/L (23.9-336.0)	605 (339.5-1074)	1243 (758-2113)	<0.0001

伴随病理学 / Comorbidity

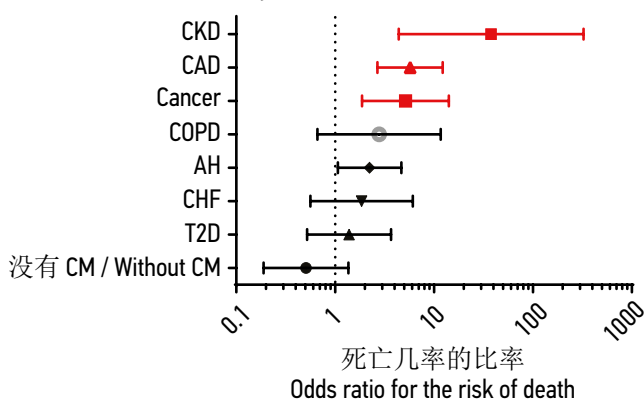


图1 森林图显示各种共病与死亡风险的关系。具有最高优势比的合并症组用红色突出显示。CKD—慢性肾病; CAD—冠心病; COPD—慢性阻塞性肺疾病; AH—高血压; CHF—慢性心力衰竭; T2D—2型糖尿病; CM—伴随疾病

Fig. 1. Forest graph showing the relationship of various comorbidities with the risk of death. Groups of comorbidity with the highest odds ratios are highlighted in red. CKD — chronic kidney disease; CAD — coronary artery disease; COPD — chronic obstructive pulmonary disease; AH — arterial hypertension; CHF — congestive heart failure; T2D — type 2 diabetes; CM — comorbidity

在死亡患者中比在康复患者中更常见(图2, b-d)。同时, IL-6水平与呼吸衰竭程度直接相关($R=0.49$, $p<0.00001$), 临床量表NEWS ($R=0.32$, $p<0.001$)和SOFA ($R=0.35$, $p<0.0001$), 而血液中IL-18浓度与呼吸衰竭的程度($R=0.32$, $p<0.001$)、肺损伤的程度根据计算机断层扫描的结果($R=0.26$, $p<0.001$)、NEWS量表($R=0.28$, $p<0.001$)、SOFA量表($R=0.35$, $p<0.0001$)呈正相关。IL-10与SOFA量表存在相关性($R=0.33$, $p<0.001$)。

由于降钙素原也是一种与细胞因子密切相关的炎症介质, 值得注意的是, 在36例死亡患者中

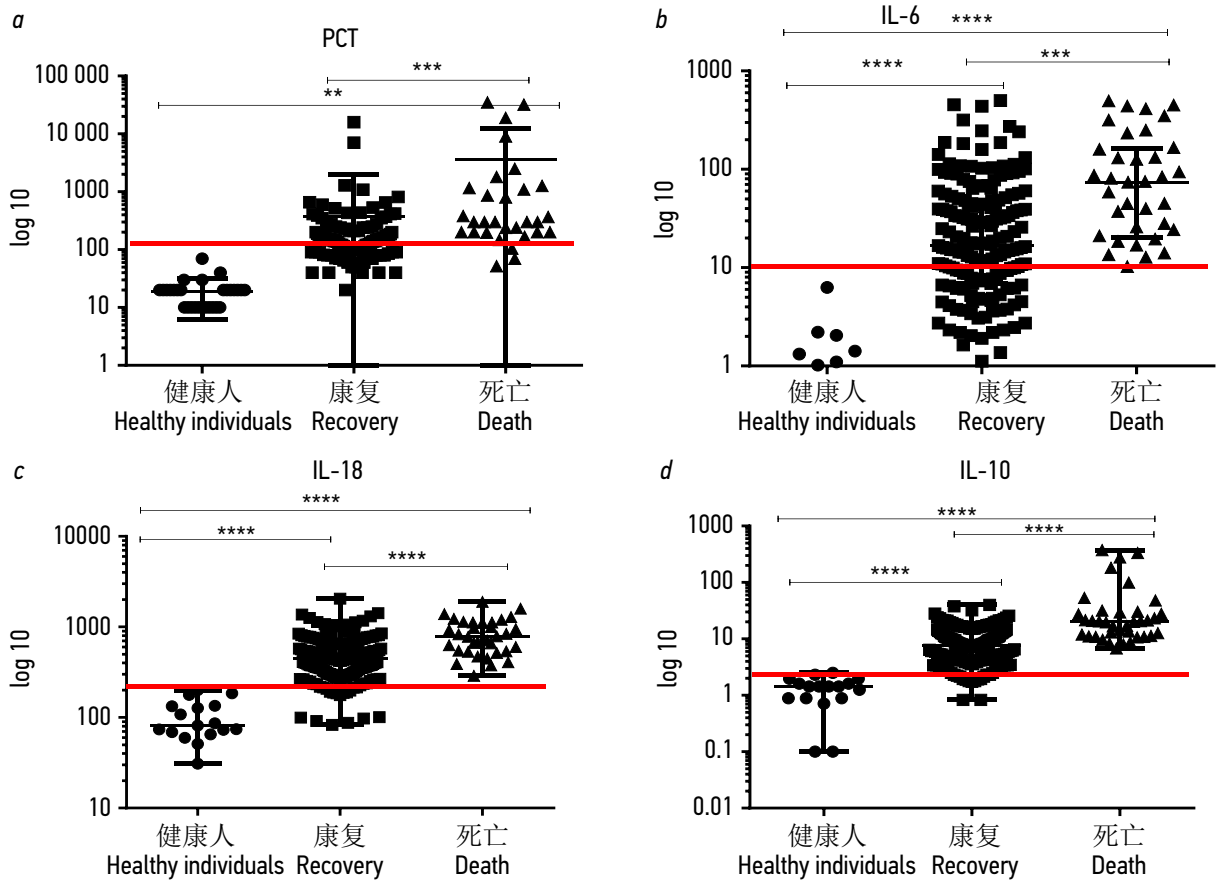


图2 2COVID-19相关性肺炎健康者、康复者和死亡患者白细胞介素-6、白细胞介素-18、白细胞介素-10、降钙素原的浓度。IL-6—白细胞介素-6；IL-18—白细胞介素-18；IL-10—白细胞介素-10；PCT—原降钙素

Fig. 2. Concentration of interleukin 6, interleukin 18, interleukin 10, procalcitonin in the healthy individuals, recovered and the deceased patients with COVID-19-associated pneumonia. IL-6 — interleukin 6, IL-18 — interleukin 18, IL-10 — interleukin 10, PCT — procalcitonin

表3 细胞因子风暴量表的指标

Table 3. Cytokine storm scale

血清中的生物标志物水平	0分	1分	2分	3分
	正常	阈值	阈值	阈值
IL-6, pg/ml	0–10	10–40	40–100	>100
IL-18, pg/ml	0–300	300–650	650–1000	>1000
IL-10, pg/ml	0–5	5–10	10–30	>30
PCT, ng/ml	0–0.25	0.25–0.99	1.0–2.0	>2.0

注：IL-6—白细胞介素-6；IL-18—白细胞介素-18；IL-10—白细胞介素-10；PCT—原降钙素。

表4 ROC曲线的参数分析结果

Table 4. Parameters of ROC curve analysis

标志物	曲线下面积	p	敏感性, % (95% CI)	特异性, % (95% CI)	阈值, pg/ml
PCT	0.8156 (0.6870–0.9441)	<0.0001	68.75 (41.34–88.98 %)	89.22 (81.52–94.49 %)	0.3250
IL-6	0.7248 (0.6338–0.8159)	<0.0001	51.35 (34.40–68.08 %)	82.98 (76.83–88.06 %)	71.31
IL-18	0.7806 (0.7016–0.8596)	<0.0001	64.71 (46.49–80.25 %)	78.19 (71.60–83.87 %)	657.9
IL-10	0.8485 (0.7900–0.9070)	<0.0001	86.49 (71.23–95.46 %)	70.2 (163.13–76.65 %)	10.63
CS量表	0.9023 (0.8455–0.9592)	<0.0001	83.33 (62.62–95.26 %)	84.82 (76.81–90.90 %)	6

注：IL-6—白细胞介素-6；IL-18—白细胞介素-18；IL-10—白细胞介素-10；PCT—原降钙素；CS量表—细胞因子风暴量表。

有17例(47%), 190例康复患者中只有25例(13%)降钙素原水平超过正常值(常值为0-0.25ng/ml, 图2, a), 同时, 与呼吸衰竭程度显著正相关($R=0.45$; $p<0.00001$)。

细胞因子风暴量表

由于IL-6、IL-10、IL-18和降钙素原水平与疾病的严重程度和死亡相关, 这些分数被整合成一个12分的量表, 称为细胞因子风暴量表。IL-6、IL-18、IL-10、降钙素原浓度范围及评分如表3所示。这些区间的阈值是通过ROC分析确定的。低水平和中水平之间的阈值是根据所研究的实验室参数的浓度确定的, 其特征是灵敏度为60%, 特异性为75%, 而中、高水平之间的敏感性为40%, 特异性为90%。

细胞因子风暴量表是一个12分的量表, 包括不同水平的IL-6、IL-18、IL-10和降钙素原(见表3)。从1到3分对应生物标志物的正常、交界、中等和高水平。得分为6分或以上的患者有较高的疾病预后不良的风险。ROC分析显示, 细胞因子风暴量表的曲线下面积均大于四种标志物的曲线下面积[AUC 0.90 (95% CI 0.8455-0.9592), $p<0.001$] (表4)。ROC曲线分析的其他结果包括IL-6、IL-10、IL-18和降钙素原的曲线下面积, 以及敏感性、特异性和阈值(见表4)。

为了比较细胞因子风暴量表和其他促炎和一般实验室生物标志物的预后价值, 构建了d二聚体、中性粒细胞、C反应蛋白、铁蛋白和乳酸脱氢酶水平的ROC曲线(见图3)。中性粒细胞曲线下面积最大, 为0.8055 (0.7337-0.8772), 敏感性为65.63% (46.81-81.43%), 特异性为84.48% (78.23-89.52%)。诊断危重型COVID-19时, 乳酸脱氢酶曲线下面积为0.7712 (0.6618-0.8806), d二聚体曲线下面积为0.7043 (0.5793-0.8292)。C反应蛋白、铁蛋白等促炎指标ROC曲线下面积分别为0.6904 (0.5920-0.7889)、0.739 (0.6456-0.8323)。

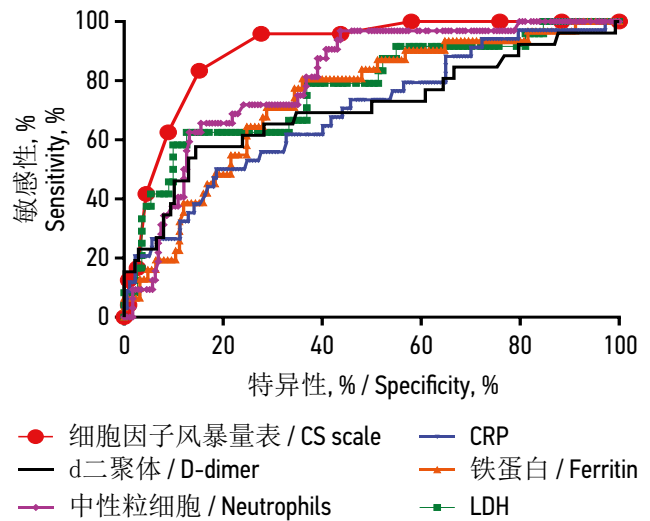


图3 细胞因子风暴、C反应蛋白、乳酸脱氢酶、铁蛋白、d二聚体、中性粒细胞的ROC曲线预测COVID-19的关键病程。CS—细胞因子风暴; CRP—C反应蛋白; LDH—乳酸脱氢酶

Fig. 3. ROC curves of the cytokine storm scale, C-reactive protein, lactate hydrogenase, ferritin, D-dimer, neutrophils for predicting the critical course of COVID-19. CS — cytokine storm; CRP — C-reactive protein; LDH — lactatehydrogenase

细胞因子风暴指数在年龄较大的人群中有升高的趋势(图4, a), 同时在伴有疾病的患者中也有升高的趋势(图4, b)。

讨论

预测COVID-19的感染过程, 对于在大规模收治患者造成的时间和物质资源有限的情况下, 及时、充分地分配力量具有根本意义。已经有大量的临床算法和模型被提出来解决这个问题。许多研究已经评估了先前开发的用于评估严重病程发展风险的临床量表的使用, 包括肺炎严重程度指数(PSI)、CURB-65和CRB-65肺炎严重程度量表、A-DROP和SMART-COP,

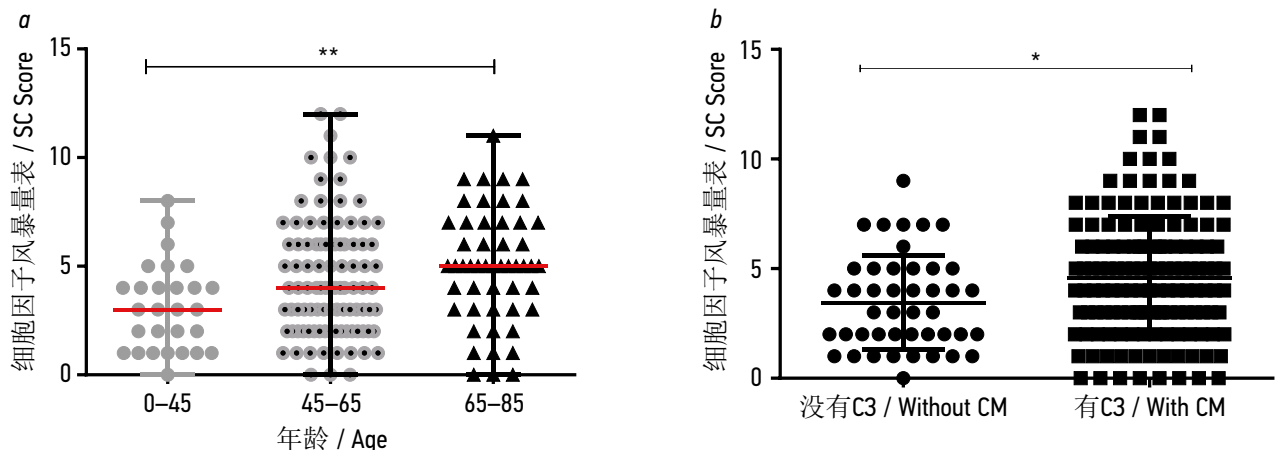


图4 不同年龄组患者细胞因子风暴指数(a); 有无共病患者的细胞因子风暴指数(b)。CM—伴随疾病; CS—细胞因子风暴

Fig. 4. Cytokine storm scale and age (a); Cytokine storm scale and comorbidity (b). CM — comorbidities; CS — cytokine storm

评估患者病情严重程度的NEWS2量表, 器官衰竭的qSOFA序贯评估, 以及系统性炎症反应综合征(SIRS)的标准[7]。因此, NEWS2量表在预测住院患者关键病程方面优于qSOFA等量表[6]。基于人口统计学数据、伴随疾病的存在、仪器研究结果、饱和数据和实验室参数[7], 还开发了评估COVID-19严重程度的新量表。在中国进行了一项关于这种方法的信息量的大规模研究。本研究中, 临床风险量表的ROC曲线下面积为0.88 (95% CI, 0.85-0.91), 验证也为0.88 (95% CI, 0.84-0.93)。根据年龄、血氧饱和度、血压、血尿素含量、C反应蛋白、国际标准化比值等指标, 美国的COVID-19严重程度10分制评分标准与相似[8]。尽管细胞因子的关键作用和细胞因子风暴的发展, 这些数据不包括风险分层算法, 因为在大多数临床实验室无法获得它们的常规测量。

多项有关COVID-19细胞因子的研究表明, 在COVID-19重症患者和死于这种感染的患者中, IL-1 β 、IL-2及其可溶性受体等细胞因子的水平, IL-6、IL-8、IL-17、IL-18、 α 肿瘤坏死因子、单核细胞趋化蛋白-1 (MCP1或CCL2)、巨噬细胞炎症蛋白-1 α (MIP-1 α 或CCL3) 和抗炎细胞因子IL-10均显著高于COVID-19较轻型患者[1,9]。同时, COVID-19相关性肺炎患者血液中IL-2、IL-1 β 、 α 肿瘤坏死因子、IL-8水平明显高于健康供体, 但死亡与存活患者之间无明显差异。

在COVID-19中, 1型干扰素的快速表达受到抑制, 因为许多SARS-CoV2蛋白可作为干扰素拮抗剂。干扰素反应的拮抗促进病毒的复制, 导致焦亡产物释放增加, 从而进一步引起异常炎症反应。需要注意的是, 在本研究组中, 大多数患者的 γ -干扰素和 α -干扰素浓度都无法检测到, 这与其他研究的数据一致[21,22]。

促炎细胞因子IL-6由T淋巴细胞、成纤维细胞、内皮细胞和单核细胞合成, 是脓毒症和其他感染的急性期反应的重要中介物[10]。该细胞因子在重症和轻度COVID-19中均升高, 与急性呼吸窘迫综合征患者受影响肺组织体积直接相关。E. Giofoni等人(2020)研究表明, 血液中IL-6水平为25 pg/ml的预后意义是严重COVID-19进展的独立危险因素[11]。在另一项研

究中, IL-6水平 >80 pg/ml与机械通气需要相关[12]。在我们的研究中, IL-6 >71 pg/ml水平是死亡风险的不利因素。

多项研究发现, 血液中IL-18的浓度与COVID-19的严重程度和重要器官的损害显著相关[13]。值得注意的是, 由于NLRP3/炎症小体的激活, 血液中IL-18水平的升高是COVID-19和自身炎症疾病的特征。在我们研究的患者中, 死亡患者的IL-18浓度明显高于存活患者。同时IL-18水平与呼吸衰竭严重程度、CT肺损害程度以及NEWS和SOFA量表指标相关。

COVID-19的一个独特特征是严重疾病患者IL-10水平升高[15-17]。IL-10也是脓毒症和全身炎症过程中的关键细胞因子之一。一方面, COVID-19初期诱导IL-10合成抑制细胞免疫。另一方面, 随着内源性IL-10的产生增加, 它可以刺激其他细胞因子风暴介质的产生。在内毒素血症和脓毒症中, IL-10可增加炎症反应[19]。我们的研究表明, 根据ROC分析, 与其他生物标志物相比, IL-10是COVID-19相关肺炎患者预后不良的更有用的指标。

许多研究表明, 降钙素原水平升高与COVID-19的严重程度显著相关[20-22]。提示即使没有细菌合并感染, 冠状病毒通过释放IL-1 β 、IL-6等促炎细胞因子引发的级联炎症反应也可能诱导患者释放降钙素原。在调查对象, 近一半的死亡患者降钙素原水平为0.32 ng/mL或更高, 这证实了降钙素原具有较高的预后价值。

在本研究的局限性中, 需要注意的是, 样本的代表性不足, 仅纳入住院患者, 细胞因子风暴指数缺乏对独立样本COVID-19患者的验证, 包括缺乏与其他风险评估指标的直接比较。然而, 我们的模型强烈证实了过度细胞因子激活在COVID-19不良过程中的作用, 这对我们来说似乎很重要。

结论

因此, 细胞因子风暴量表与COVID-19病程不良预后风险的信息含量相当高。与孤立的标志物相比, IL-6、IL-18、IL-10和降钙素原的预后能力更有可能预测COVID-19相关肺炎的致命结局, 而它们直接与年龄和伴随疾病等危险因素相关。

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