



· 论 著 ·

PLK4基因在人食管鳞癌组织中的表达及对癌细胞增殖、侵袭迁移影响的研究

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[摘要] **背景与目的:** 作为调节细胞周期的蛋白激酶, polo样激酶4 (polo-like kinase 4, PLK4) 参与有丝分裂启动、中心体成熟、胞质分裂及DNA损伤检测等, 在多种肿瘤中呈高表达, 但PLK4是否参与食管鳞状细胞癌 (esophageal squamous cell carcinoma, ESCC) 的增殖和侵袭迁移尚不清楚。研究PLK4在ESCC细胞系和临床组织标本中的表达以及对癌细胞增殖、侵袭迁移的影响。**方法:** 采用TRIZol提取细胞总RNA, 反转录试剂盒合成cDNA, 采用实时荧光定量聚合酶链反应 (real-time fluorescent quantitative polymerase chain reaction, RTFQ-PCR) 检测PLK4基因在正常食管上皮细胞Het-1A和ESCC细胞系TE-1、TE-8和TE-13中的mRNA表达水平。离心收集细胞后用RIPA裂解液提取细胞总蛋白, 采用蛋白质印迹法 (Western blot) 检测正常食管上皮细胞Het-1A和ESCC细胞系TE-1、TE-8和TE-13中PLK4蛋白水平。选取2017年1月—2019年12月河南医学高等专科学校附属医院93例经病理组织学检查确诊为ESCC的患者癌组织及其配对的癌旁组织 (距原发灶边缘5 cm以上), 临床组织用液氮速冻后加入RIPA裂解液研磨提取组织总蛋白, 采用Western blot检测PLK4蛋白水平。绘制受试者工作特征曲线, 分析PLK4表达与临床病理学参数之间的关系。利用siRNA干扰技术抑制TE-13细胞中PLK4的表达, 设计并合成PLK4的siRNA干扰片段, 采用LipofectamineTM2000转染细胞抑制PLK4在TE-13细胞中的表达, RTFQ-PCR实验和Western blot检测siRNA干扰片段对PLK4表达的影响。PLK4在TE-13细胞中表达下调后, 用细胞计数试剂盒-8 (cell counting kit-8, CCK-8) 实验和克隆形成实验检测细胞的增殖能力, transwell小室实验检测细胞的侵袭能力, 划痕愈合实验检测细胞的迁移能力。Western blot实验检测PLK4下调后对mTOR/p70S6K信号转导通路中关键蛋白mTOR、p70S6K、p-mTOR^{Ser2448}和p-p70S6K^{Thr421/Ser424}表达的影响。**结果:** RTFQ-PCR和Western blot检测结果显示, PLK4基因在ESCC细胞系中的mRNA和蛋白表达水平显著高于正常食管上皮细胞 ($P < 0.05$)。与癌旁正常组织相比, ESCC组织标本中PLK4的蛋白表达水平异常增高 ($P < 0.05$), 绘制的受试者工作特征曲线的曲线下面积为0.841, 95%CI为0.786~0.895, 灵敏度为74.2% (69/93), 特异度为89.2% (83/93) ($P < 0.0001$)。PLK4蛋白在ESCC组织中的表达水平与性别、年龄和肿瘤大小均无关 (均 $P > 0.05$), 但与分化程度、临床分期和淋巴结是否转移有关 (均 $P < 0.05$)。ESCC分化程度越低, PLK4高表达率越高, 低分化程度的ESCC组织中PLK4高表达率为86.7%, III~IV期患者ESCC组织中PLK4蛋白高表达率为92.3%。PLK4高表达与临床分期呈正相关 ($P < 0.05$)。CCK-8和克隆形成实验结果显示, 下调PLK4的表达可以显著抑制TE-13细胞的增殖 ($P < 0.05$), transwell小室实验和划痕实验结果显示, 下调PLK4的表达可以显著抑制TE-13细胞的侵袭迁移能力 ($P < 0.05$)。抑制PLK4的表达使TE-13细胞中mTOR和p70S6K蛋白的表达下降 ($P < 0.05$), 且p-mTOR^{Ser2448}和p-p70S6K^{Thr421/Ser424}的表达下降 ($P < 0.05$)。**结论:** PLK4在ESCC细胞和组织中均呈高表达, 抑制PLK4的表达可以抑制ESCC细胞的增殖和侵袭迁移能力, PLK4可能通过mTOR/p70S6K信号转导通路促进ESCC细胞恶性进程。

[关键词] polo样激酶4; 食管鳞癌; 临床病理学特征; 增殖; 侵袭迁移

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[Abstract] Background and purpose: As a protein kinase that regulates the cell cycle, polo-like kinase 4 (PLK4) is involved in mitosis initiation, centrosome maturation, cytokinesis, DNA damage detection, etc., which is highly expressed in a variety of tumors. Whether it is involved in the proliferation, invasion and migration of esophageal squamous cell carcinoma (ESCC), and the specific molecular mechanism still remain unclear. This study examined the expression of PLK4 in ESCC cell lines and clinical tissue specimens, and its effect on cancer cell proliferation, invasion and migration. **Methods:** Total cell RNA was extracted with TRIzol, and cDNA was synthesized with reverse transcription kit for real-time fluorescence quantitative polymerase chain reaction (RTFQ-PCR) to detect the mRNA expression level of *PLK4* gene in normal esophageal epithelial cells Het-1A and ESCC cell lines TE-1, TE-8 and TE-13. After the cells were collected by centrifugation, total cell protein was extracted with RIPA lysate. Western blot was used to detect the expression level of PLK4 protein in normal esophageal epithelial cells Het-1A and ESCC cell lines TE-1, TE-8 and TE-13. A total of 93 cases of ESCC tissues and paired adjacent tissues (more than 5 cm from the edge of the primary tumor) confirmed by histopathology were collected at the Affiliated Hospital of Henan Medical College from January 2017 to December 2019. The clinical tissues were quick-frozen by liquid nitrogen followed by total tissue protein extraction by RIPA lysate. Western blot was used to detect the expression level of PLK4 protein in ESCC tissues. We constructed a receiver operating characteristic curve and analyzed the relationship between PLK4 expression and clinicopathological parameters. The expression of PLK4 in TE-13 cells was inhibited by siRNA interference technology. The siRNA interference fragments of PLK4 were designed and synthesized, followed by transfection with LipofectamineTM2000 to inhibit the expression of PLK4 in TE-13 cells. The effect of siRNA interference fragments on PLK expression was detected by RTFQ-PCR experiments and Western blot. After the expression of PLK4 was down-regulated in TE-13 cells, cell counting kit-8 (CCK-8) experiment and clone formation experiment were used to detect cell proliferation ability, and transwell chamber experiment and scratch healing experiment were conducted to detect cell invasion and migration abilities. The effects of down-regulation of PLK4 on the expressions of key proteins mTOR, p70S6K, p-mTOR^{Ser2448} and p-p70S6K^{Thr421/Ser424} in the mTOR/p70S6K signaling pathway were detected by Western blot experiments. **Results:** The results of RTFQ-PCR and Western blot experiments showed that the mRNA and protein expression levels of *PLK4* gene in ESCC cell lines were significantly higher than those in normal esophageal epithelial cells ($P < 0.05$). Compared with normal tissues adjacent to cancer, the protein expression level of PLK4 in ESCC tissue specimens was abnormally increased ($P < 0.05$). The receiver operating characteristic curve exhibited an area under curve (AUC) of 0.841, a 95% CI of 0.786-0.895 with 74.2% (69/93) sensitivity and 89.2% (83/93) specificity ($P < 0.0001$). There was no relationship between expression level of PLK4 protein and gender, age and tumor size (all $P > 0.05$) in ESCC tissues. However, expression level of PLK4 protein was related to the degree of differentiation, clinical stage and lymph node metastasis (all $P < 0.05$). The lower degree of ESCC differentiation had higher expression rate of PLK4. The high expression rate of PLK4 in ESCC tissues of poorly differentiated degree was 86.7%, and the high expression rate of PLK4 protein in ESCC tissues of patients with stage III-IV was 92.3%. The high expression of PLK4 was positively correlated with clinical stage ($P < 0.05$). The results of CCK-8 and clone formation experiments showed that down-regulating the expression of PLK4 significantly inhibited the proliferation of TE-13 cells ($P < 0.05$). The results of the transwell chamber experiment and the scratch experiment showed that down-regulating the expression of PLK4 significantly inhibited the invasion and migration abilities of TE-13 cells ($P < 0.05$). Inhibiting the expression of PLK4 decreased the protein expressions of mTOR and p70S6K in TE-13 cells ($P < 0.05$), and the expressions of p-mTOR^{Ser2448} and p-p70S6K^{Thr421/Ser424} decreased ($P < 0.05$). **Conclusion:** PLK4 is highly expressed in ESCC cells and tissues. Inhibition of PLK4 expression inhibited the proliferation, invasion and migration of ESCC cells. PLK4 may promote the malignant process of ESCC cells through the mTOR/p70S6K signaling pathway.

[Key words] Polo-like kinase 4; Esophageal squamous cell carcinoma; Clinicopathological characteristics; Proliferation; Invasion and migration

Polo样激酶4 (polo-like kinase 4, PLK4) 是丝氨酸/苏氨酸蛋白激酶polo家族的成员, 定位于细胞中心粒, 调节细胞周期过程中的中心粒复制^[1]。在乳腺癌^[2-3]、肺癌^[4]和前列腺癌^[5]中均能检测到PLK4的表达。此外, PLK4在

不同类型肿瘤中的作用有所不同, PLK4高表达使乳腺癌的转移率增高^[2-3], 而敲低PLK4能显著抑制成神经细胞瘤细胞的侵袭能力^[6]。PLK4在食管鳞状细胞癌 (esophageal squamous cell carcinoma, ESCC) 中的表达及对ESCC发生、发

展的影响仍不清楚。

ESCC中mTOR/p70S6K信号转导通路高度激活,抑制mTOR/p70S6K信号转导通路的活性使下游靶蛋白p70S6K和4E-BP1的磷酸化水平下降,抑制细胞的增殖和迁移能力^[7]。激活m-TOR改变有丝分裂细胞的中心体定位,影响细胞定向分裂促进肾囊肿的形成^[8]。抑制mTORC1激酶的活性使有丝分裂纺锤体形成的关键调节因子的定位受损,导致纺锤体组装和胞质分裂缺陷^[9]。研究^[10]显示,在胶质母细胞瘤中敲低PLK4的表达可增强硼替佐米的抗肿瘤作用,可能由PTEN/PI3K/AKT/mTOR信号转导通路介导,细胞凋亡和氧化应激过程被激活。然而,PLK4是否通过调节mTOR/p70S6K信号转导通路参与ESCC的进程鲜见报道。本研究通过检测ESCC细胞和组织中PLK4的表达水平,分析PLK4表达与临床病理学特征之间的关系,下调PLK4的表达检测ESCC细胞增殖及侵袭转移能力的变化,并探索其可能的分子机制,为ESCC诊断和治疗提供潜在的分子靶点。

1 材料和方法

1.1 主要试剂

胎牛血清、胰蛋白酶和RPMI-1640细胞培养基购自美国Gibco公司,TRIzol、反转录试剂盒和LipofectamineTM2000转染试剂购自美国Invitrogen公司,SYBR Green 实时荧光定量聚合酶链反应(real-time fluorescent quantitative polymerase chain reaction, RTFQ-PCR)试剂盒购自美国Thermo Fisher公司,PLK4抗体和 β -actin抗体购自英国Abcam公司,mTOR抗体、p70S6K抗体、p-mTOR^{Ser2448}抗体和p-p70^{S6KThr421/Ser424}抗体购自美国Cell Signaling Technology公司,HRP标记羊抗鼠IgG购自武汉博士德生物工程有限公司,BCA蛋白浓度测定试剂盒和细胞计数试剂盒-8(cell counting kit-8, CCK-8)购自上海碧云天生物技术有限公司,transwell小室购自美国Corning公司。

1.2 细胞株

正常食管上皮细胞Het-1A、人ESCC细胞系

TE-1、TE-8和TE-13均购自中国科学院典型培养物保藏委员会细胞库/中国科学院上海生命科学研究院细胞资源中心。

1.3 病例资料

选取2017年1月—2019年12月河南医学高等专科学校附属医院93例经病理组织学检查确诊为ESCC患者的癌组织及其配对的癌旁组织(距原发灶边缘5 cm以上)。入选标准:ESCC为原发性肿瘤并无其他肿瘤病史;未经任何ESCC相关化疗、免疫治疗等;无食管手术治疗史。其中男性43例,女性50例,年龄(55.32 ± 10.23)岁。手术后立即将新鲜标本进行液氮冻存。

1.4 方法

1.4.1 细胞培养

Het-1A细胞和ESCC细胞(TE-1、TE-8和TE-13)加入含有10%胎牛血清、100 U/mL青霉素和100 μ g/mL链霉素的RPMI-1640细胞培养基,置于37 $^{\circ}$ C, CO₂体积分数为5%的细胞培养箱中培养。

1.4.2 RTFQ-PCR检测PLK4基因的表达

用TRIzol提取细胞总RNA,反转录试剂盒合成cDNA,用于RTFQ-PCR实验检测PLK4基因的表达。PLK4上游引物为5'-AATCAAGCACTCTCCAATC-3', PLK4下游引物为5'-TGTGTCCTTCTGCAAATC-3'; β -actin上游引物为5'-GTTGCGTTACACCCTTTCTTG-3', β -actin下游引物为5'-CACCTTCACCGTCCAGTTT-3'。反应体系:cDNA 0.2 μ L,上下游引物各0.5 μ L, SYBR缓冲溶液29.25 μ L, Real Master Mix 35.7 μ L, ddH₂O 33.85 μ L。反应条件为:94 $^{\circ}$ C 10 min, 30个循环:94 $^{\circ}$ C 15 s, 60 $^{\circ}$ C 32 s。采用2^{- $\Delta\Delta$ Ct}法计算PLK4基因的mRNA相对表达量。

1.4.3 蛋白质印迹法(Western blot)检测蛋白水平

离心收集细胞后用RIPA裂解液提取细胞总蛋白。临床组织用液氮速冻后加入RIPA裂解液研磨提取组织总蛋白。BCA法测定蛋白质浓度,取20 μ g蛋白质上样进行十二烷基硫酸钠聚丙烯酰胺凝胶电泳(sodium dodecyl sulphate polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis, SDS-PAGE),半干转至

PVDF膜, 用5%脱脂奶粉4 ℃过夜封闭, 一抗4 ℃过夜温育, 然后与HRP标记的二抗室温温育1 h, ECL发光液进行显影, 扫描仪扫描条带并用Image J分析。

1.4.4 利用siRNA技术抑制TE-13细胞中PLK4的表达

将处于对数生长期的TE-13细胞接种于6孔板, 置于37 ℃、CO₂体积分数为5%细胞培养箱中培养至融合度达60%~80%, 弃去培养基, 每孔加入2.0 mL无血清培养基, 其中含10 μL Lipofectamine™2000试剂和10 μL si-PLK4 RNA (或si-control RNA) 混合均匀, 继续置细胞培养箱中培养, 6 h后弃去含转染复合物的培养基, 加入新鲜培养基继续培养48 h。本研究中si-PLK4 RNA序列顺义链为5'-GACCTTATTCACCAGTTACTT-3', 反义链为5'-GACCTTATTCACCAGTT-3'; si-control RNA序列顺义链为5'-UUCUCCG AACGUUGUCACGUTT-3', 反义链为5'-ACGUG ACACGUUCGGAGAATT-3'。

1.4.5 CCK-8和克隆形成实验检测细胞增殖能力

将细胞接种到96孔板中(2 × 10⁴个/孔), 细胞贴壁后每孔加入10 μL CCK-8测定液, 在培养箱中继续培养1 h。用酶标仪检测细胞在450 nm处的吸光度(D)。细胞抑制率 = (D_{对照孔平均值} - D_{实验孔平均值}) / D_{对照孔平均值} × 100%。

将细胞接种到6孔板中(1 × 10³个/孔), 置培养箱中培养细胞至两周, 每隔3天更换培养液一次, 当克隆数停止增加时弃去培养基, 用4%多聚甲醛固定细胞30 min, 再用结晶紫染色, 计算细胞克隆数。

1.4.6 Transwell小室实验检测细胞侵袭能力

将transwell小室置于24孔培养板的孔中, 下室加入600 μL含10%胎牛血清的RPMI-1640培养基。上室加入无血清RPMI-1640培养基和处理过的细胞。培养24 h后用4%的多聚甲醛固定细胞30 min, PBS清洗小室洗去多余的甲醛, 加入1%的结晶紫室温放置30 min, PBS清洗3次, 用乙醇棉球擦拭上室未迁移的细胞, 显微镜下取随机视野观察。

1.4.7 划痕愈合实验检测细胞迁移能力

将细胞接种到6孔板中, 待细胞的融合度达到90%, 用划痕仪在6孔板下部的中心划痕, 形成划痕后置培养箱中继续培养, 分别在划痕后0和48 h拍摄划痕愈合单层的照片, 计算每组细胞迁移率(%) = (0 h划痕宽度 - 48 h划痕宽度) / 0 h划痕宽度 × 100%。

1.5 统计学处理

数据用SPSS 23.0软件进行统计学分析。PLK4在各细胞中的表达差异用单因素方差分析。构建受试者工作特征(receiver operating characteristic, ROC)曲线, 计算曲线下面积(area under curve, AUC)用于评估PLK4蛋白表达水平在诊断ESCC中的性能, 计算cutoff值, 统计PLK4蛋白表达诊断ESCC的灵敏度和特异度。用卡方检验分析组织标本中两组间PLK4蛋白表达差异。Spearman相关性分析PLK4和ESCC病理学参数之间的相关性, Spearman偏相关性分析临床分期和PLK4表达的净相关。P < 0.05为差异有统计学意义。

2 结 果

2.1 PLK4在ESCC细胞和组织中的表达

与Het-1A细胞相比, *PLK4*基因的mRNA在ESCC细胞中均呈高表达, 差异有统计学意义(P < 0.05, 图1)。Western blot检测结果显示, PLK4蛋白在各ESCC细胞中也呈高表达, 与Het-1A相比, 差异有统计学意义(P < 0.05, 图2)。

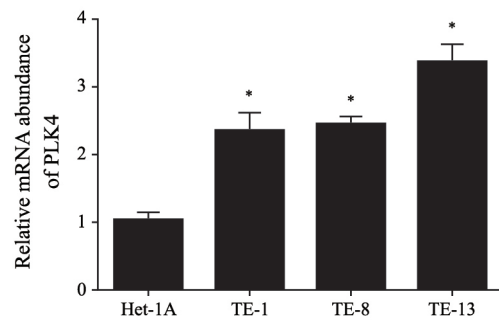


图1 Het-1A和ESCC细胞株中的PLK4 mRNA表达

Fig. 1 Expression of PLK4 mRNA in Het-1A and ESCC cell lines

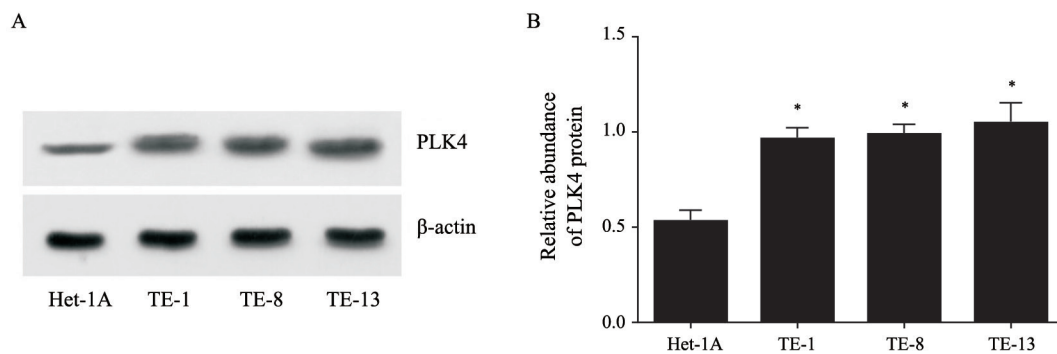


图2 Het-1A和ESCC细胞株中的PLK4蛋白的表达

Fig. 2 Expression of PLK4 protein in Het-1A and ESCC cell lines

A: Western blot results of expression of PLK4 protein in Het-1A and ESCC cell lines; B: Histogram of PLK4 protein expression in Het-1A and ESCC cell lines; $P < 0.05$, compared with Het-1A

通过Western blot检测ESCC组织和癌旁正常组织中PLK4蛋白的水平，绘制ROC曲线。结果显示，AUC为0.841，95% CI: 0.786~0.895，采用约登指数最大法得到cutoff值为1.343，灵敏度为74.2% (69/93)，特异度为89.2% (83/93)，差异有统计学意义 ($P < 0.0001$ ，图3，表1)。

2.2 PLK4蛋白水平与临床病理学参数的关系

ESCC组织中PLK4蛋白水平与性别、年龄和肿瘤大小均无关 (均 $P > 0.05$)，但与分化程度、临床分期和淋巴结转移有关 (均 $P < 0.05$)。ESCC分化程度越低，PLK4

阳性率越高，其中低分化程度的ESCC组织中PLK4阳性率为86.7%，Ⅲ~Ⅳ期患者ESCC组织中PLK4蛋白阳性率为92.3% (表2)。

2.3 PLK4表达与ESCC临床分期的相关性分析

ESCC组织中PLK4表达与分化程度、淋巴结转移和临床分期均有相关性 ($P < 0.05$)，此外，PLK4表达与临床分期呈正相关 ($r = 0.604$ ， $P = 0.000$ ，表3)。为了研究临床分期和PLK4表达的净相关，经Spearman偏相关控制分化程度和淋巴结转移这两个因素后，PLK4表达与临床分期之间的净相关系数 r 为0.539 ($P = 0.000$)。

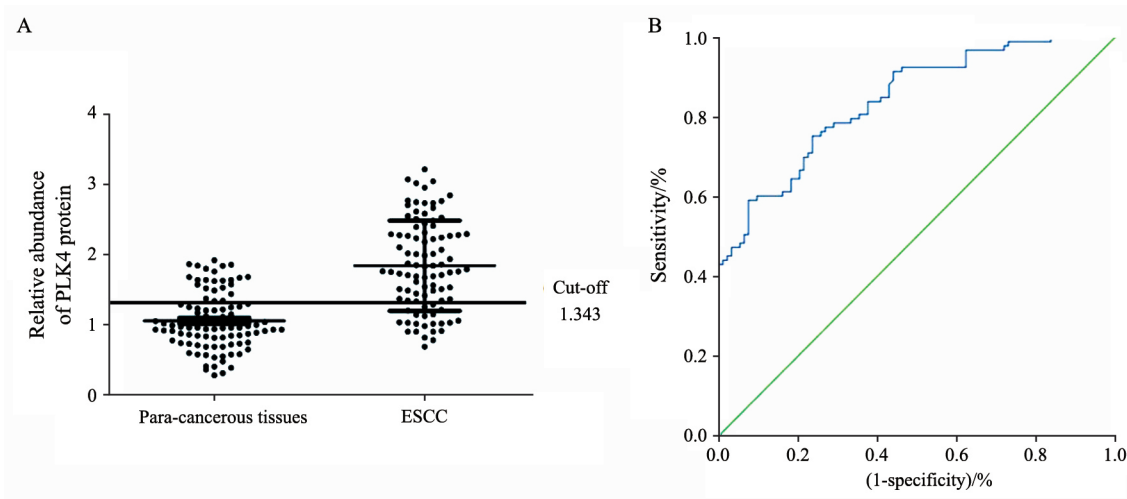


图3 ESCC和癌旁正常组织中PLK4蛋白的水平

Fig. 3 Level of PLK4 protein in ESCC and para-cancerous tissues

A: Western blot detection of PLK4 protein levels in ESCC tissues and para-cancerous tissues; B: ROC curve of PLK4 expression in tissues for diagnosis of ESCC

表 1 PLK4蛋白在ESCC组织和癌旁正常组织中的水平

Tab. 1 Level of PLK4 protein in ESCC and para-cancerous tissues

Group	Case <i>n</i>	PLK4 expression		χ^2	<i>P</i> value
		High	Low		
ESCC	93	69	24	76.596	0.000
Normal	93	10	83		

表 2 ESCC组织中PLK4蛋白水平与临床病理学参数的关系

Tab. 2 Relationship between protein level of PLK4 in ESCC and clinical parameters

Clinicopathological parameters	Expression of PLK4 <i>n</i> (%)		χ^2	<i>P</i> value
	High	Low		
Gender			0.433	0.510
Male	31 (72.2)	12 (27.9)		
Female	39 (78.0)	11 (22.0)		
Age/year			1.972	0.160
≥ 60	33 (82.5)	7 (17.5)		
< 60	37 (69.8)	16 (30.2)		
Size <i>D</i> /cm			0.438	0.508
≥ 5	36 (78.3)	10 (21.7)		
< 5	34 (72.3)	13 (27.7)		
Differentiation			15.150	0.001
High	11 (45.8)	13 (54.2)		
Middle	20 (83.3)	4 (16.7)		
Low	39 (86.7)	6 (13.3)		
Clinical stage			33.671	0.000
I - II	10 (35.7)	18 (64.3)		
III -IV	60 (92.3)	5 (7.7)		
Lymph node metastasis			5.488	0.019
Yes	41 (85.4)	7 (14.6)		
No	29 (64.4)	16 (35.6)		

表 3 PLK4表达与ESCC临床病理学参数相关性分析

Tab. 3 Correlation analysis between PLK4 expression and ESCC clinicopathological parameters

Item	Differentiation		Lymph node metastasis	
	<i>r</i>	<i>P</i> value	<i>r</i>	<i>P</i> value
Clinical stage	0.319	0.002	0.367	0.000
PLK4 expression	0.348	0.001	0.243	0.019

2.4 抑制PLK4基因的表达对TE-13细胞增殖、侵袭迁移的影响

采用si-RNA干扰技术抑制ESCC细胞TE-13中PLK4的表达, RTFQ-PCR和Western blot结果显示成功抑制TE-13细胞中PLK4的表达 ($P < 0.05$, 图3)。CCK-8结果显示, siRNA抑制PLK4的表达后, TE-13的增殖速度显著低于对照 ($P < 0.05$, 图4A), 克隆形成实验结果显示, si-PLK4组的克隆细胞数显著低于对照组 ($P < 0.05$, 图4B和4C)。划痕迁移实验结果显示, si-PLK4组的细胞迁移率为16.67%, 显著低于对照组 ($P < 0.05$, 图4D)。Transwell小室实验结果显示, si-PLK4组的细胞侵袭数显著低于对照组 ($P < 0.05$, 图4E和4F)。

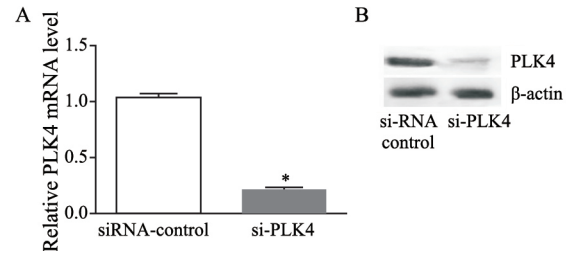


图 4 抑制食管鳞癌细胞TE-13中PLK4的表达

Fig. 4 Inhibition of PLK4 expression in esophageal squamous cell carcinoma TE-13

A: Relative expression of PLK4 mRNA after si-RNA interference; B: Western blot detection of PLK4 after si-RNA interference; *: $P < 0.05$, compared with siRNA-control group

2.5 抑制PLK4的表达对mTOR/p70S6K信号转导通路的影响

为了研究PLK4对TE-13细胞增殖、侵袭和迁移影响的潜在机制, 通过Western blot检测了mTOR/p70S6K信号转导通路靶蛋白的表达水平。与对照组相比, si-PLK4组mTOR和p70S6K蛋白的表达水平降低, 分别为0.69 ($P < 0.05$) 和0.56 ($P < 0.05$), 此外, p-mTOR^{Ser2448}和p-p70S6K^{Thr421/Ser424}的蛋白水平显著低于对照组, 分别为0.20 ($P < 0.05$) 和0.19 ($P < 0.05$, 图5、6)。

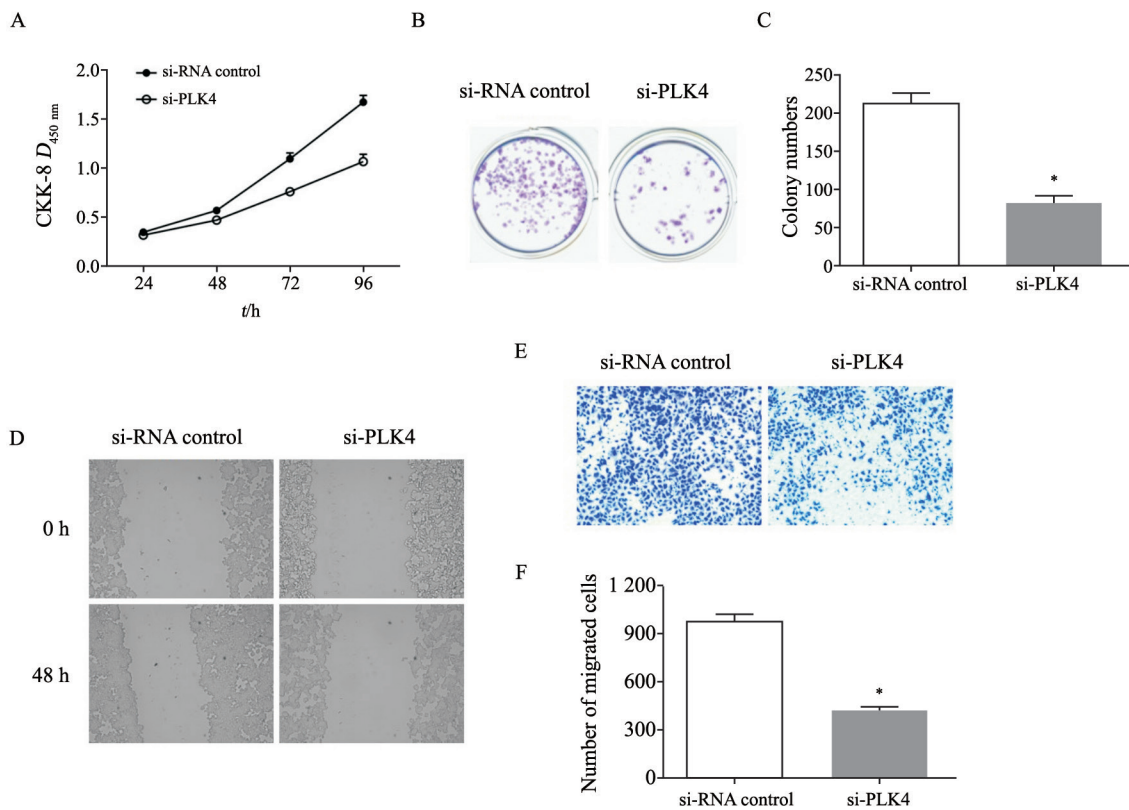


图5 抑制PLK4的表达对TE-13细胞增殖、侵袭和迁移的影响

Fig. 5 Effect of inhibition of Plk4 expression on proliferation, invasion and migration of TE-13 cells

A: Cells were subjected to CCK-8 assay for the determination of cell proliferation after si-PLK4; B and C: Clone formation experiment after si-RNA interference; D: Cell scratch test was used to detect cell migration ability; E and F: Transwell test was used to detect cell invasion ability; *: $P < 0.05$, compared with siRNA-control group

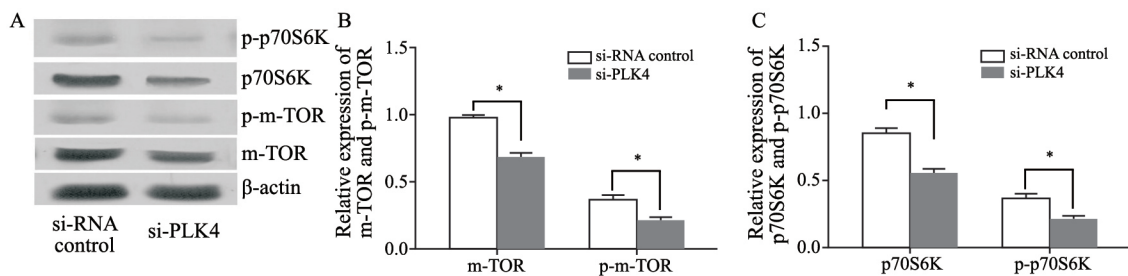


图6 PLK4对TE-13细胞mTOR/p70S6K信号转导通路活性的影响

Fig. 6 Effects of PSMD7 on the activity of mTOR/p70S6K pathway in TE-13 cells

A: Western blot results of mTOR, p-mTOR, p70S6K and p-p70S6K after si-PLK4; B and C: Histograms of Western blot results of mTOR, p-mTOR, p70S6K and p-p70S6K expressions; *: $P < 0.05$, compared with siRNA-control group

3 讨论

PLK4作为调节细胞周期的蛋白激酶，参与有丝分裂的多个步骤，如有丝分裂启动、中心体成熟、胞质分裂等，同时还参与DNA损伤检测

点和有丝分裂中期检测点的信号转导^[11-12]。有研究^[13]结果显示，PLK4在结直肠癌中的表达高于癌旁组织，并且与组织分化程度、淋巴结转移和TNM分期有关。PLK4的高表达与肿瘤组织分级、恶性程度及肿瘤患者的预后呈正相关^[14]，

提示PLK4可能是肿瘤诊断、预后和化疗的评价指标。

通过TCGA数据库对PLK4 mRNA在食管腺癌和正常组织中的表达进行分析,发现食管腺癌组织中PLK4 mRNA表达的中位值是正常组织的8~9倍^[15],而PLK4在ESCC组织中的表达鲜见报道。本研究发现,PLK4在各ESCC细胞中的mRNA表达和蛋白水平均显著高于正常食管上皮细胞,且ESCC组织标本中PLK4蛋白的水平显著高于癌旁正常组织。PLK4的表达水平诊断ESCC的AUC为0.841,灵敏度和特异度分别为74.2%和89.2%,PLK4蛋白水平与性别和年龄均无关($P>0.05$),但与分化程度、临床分期和淋巴结转移相关($P<0.05$),低分化程度的ESCC组织中PLK4阳性率最高,Ⅲ~Ⅳ期患者ESCC组织中PLK4阳性率最高,说明PLK4表达水平与ESCC的恶性程度有关,参与ESCC的发生、发展。

本研究结果表明PLK4表达与临床分期呈正相关,控制分化程度和淋巴结转移因素后,PLK4表达与临床分期之间仍呈正相关。目前已经鉴定了几种PLK4的小分子抑制剂,其中一些正在临床试验中。CFI-400945是第一种口服PLK4抑制剂,CFI-400945在PLK4过表达的乳腺癌细胞中具有选择性的抗肿瘤活性^[16]。进一步的研究证明了CFI-400945在多种肿瘤中具有显著的抗肿瘤作用,包括胰腺癌^[17]、肺癌^[18]、肝癌^[19]和乳腺癌^[20]。YLT-11是一种新设计的选择性PLK4抑制剂,Lei等^[21]的研究表明YLT-11能显著抑制乳腺癌细胞的增殖,并导致中心体复制和有丝分裂缺陷的失调,从而增加肿瘤细胞对化疗的敏感性。鉴于PLK4在ESCC中呈高表达,以及与临床分期的正相关性,PLK4有望成为ESCC潜在的治疗靶点。

在细胞增殖过程中mTOR/p70S6K信号转导通路发挥关键作用,并受其他蛋白质的调节^[22-23]。Wu等^[24]探索了临床ESCC组织标本中mTOR/p70S6K信号转导通路中各种靶蛋白水平与临床病理学因素以及患者预后之间的关系,发现mTOR、p-mTOR、p70S6K、p-p70S6K、

延伸起始因子4E、结合蛋白-1等在肿瘤组织中显著上调,mTOR和p70S6K的表达与总生存期相关,而p-mTOR与无进展生存期相关,并证实mTOR的过表达是ESCC总体生存的独立不良预后因素。白血病患者肿瘤细胞中诱导Plk1的表达后使mTOR信号转导通路激活,促进肿瘤细胞的增殖,并抑制细胞的凋亡^[25]。在ESCC细胞系中,mTOR/p70S6K信号转导通路通过多个丝氨酸和苏氨酸残基的磷酸化被激活^[26],下调PLK4不仅降低mTOR和p70S6K的表达,还可抑制p-mTOR^{Ser2448}和p-p70S6K^{Thr421/Ser424}的表达。本研究结果显示,下调PLK4引起的ESCC细胞增殖和侵袭迁移能力的降低可能与mTOR/p70S6K信号转导通路密切相关。

本研究结果证实,PLK4在ESCC细胞系和组织中的高表达,与分化程度、临床分期及淋巴结转移相关。进一步的机制研究表明,PLK4可能通过mTOR/p70S6K信号转导通路抑制TE-13细胞的增殖和侵袭迁移能力。

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