



· 论 著 ·

经皮冷冻消融联合椎体成形术治疗椎体和椎旁转移瘤所致的疼痛

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[摘要] **背景与目的:** 恶性肿瘤出现椎体转移并累及椎旁组织后, 不仅引起疼痛, 而且会导致椎体强度下降, 诱发骨折, 临床处理比较棘手。本研究旨在评估经皮冷冻消融联合椎体成形术治疗恶性肿瘤患者椎体及椎旁转移瘤所致疼痛的安全性和有效性。**方法:** 回顾性分析2015年3月—2017年3月接受椎体成形术联合冷冻消融术的患者资料, 纳入单一椎体和椎旁转移的恶性肿瘤患者, 所有患者在相应的椎体层面伴有中、重度疼痛, 并且需要服用止痛药物, 其中有2例患者曾接受放疗, 疼痛缓解不明显。为了控制疼痛, 所有患者首先在CT引导下完成经皮冷冻消融治疗, 然后转移至数字减影血管造影(digital subtraction angiography, DSA)室接受椎体成形术, 采用视觉模拟评分法(visual analogue scale, VAS)评分法评估患者术前及术后1、3和6个月时的疼痛程度。记录患者术前及术后的任何不适主诉。**结果:** 共有16例患者成功接受了冷冻消融联合椎体成形术治疗, 平均年龄58.1岁, 其中男性10例(10/16), 骨水泥平均注射量为4.2 mL。通过配对 t 检验, 同术前相比, 所有患者术后1个月的VAS评分均显著降低($P < 0.05$), 随访3个月时进一步降低($P < 0.05$), 6个月时稳定($P > 0.05$)。2例患者术后出现神经障碍, 表现为股神经受损, 单侧下肢麻木, 抬腿困难, 经过治疗后症状逐步缓解并最终消失。1例患者术后出现右侧腹壁肿胀, MRI检查显示血肿和右侧胸腔少量积液, 未处理, 后逐渐缓解。**结论:** 我们的研究结果显示, 经皮冷冻消融联合椎体成形术治疗单一椎体及椎旁转移瘤所致的疼痛, 止痛效果明显, 但有可能出现累及神经的并发症, 术中需要仔细布针, 结合CT引导并实时监控冰球范围。

[关键词] 椎体和椎旁转移瘤; 经皮冷冻消融术; 经皮椎体成形术

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[Abstract] **Background and purpose:** Vertebral and paravertebral metastases are the common complications in cancer patients. Although pain is the primary complaint, osteolytic bone metastasis causing vertebral compression fracture should also be considered. The aim of this study was to assess the safety and effectiveness of combined procedure of cryoablation and vertebroplasty for reduction of pain caused by vertebral and paravertebral metastases in cancer patients. **Methods:** We retrospectively analyzed the patients with single vertebral and paravertebral metastases who received combined procedure of cryoablation and vertebroplasty from Mar. 2015 to Mar. 2017. They also had moderate-severe pain around the level of vertebral metastasis and needed analgesic, and two of them had no pain remission after radiotherapy. In order to control the pain and treat the paravertebral neoplasm, they received cryoablation therapy followed by vertebroplasty. All the procedures were performed in CT and digital subtraction angiography (DSA) operating room. Pain intensity was evaluated by the visual analog scale (VAS) score administered before and 1, 3 and 6 months after procedure. Any uncomfortable complaint was recorded during or after operation. **Results:** There were sixteen patients who received cryoablation and vertebroplasty successfully. The mean age of patients was 58.1 years

including 10 male patients (10/16), and the mean volume of bone cement was 4.2 mL. The VAS scores showed a reduction in all patients at 1 month postoperation compared with preoperation (paired *t* test, $P < 0.05$), further decreased at 3 months (paired *t* test, $P < 0.05$) and kept stable at 6 months (paired *t* test, $P > 0.05$). Two patients had neurological disorder after operation, and presented with femoral nerve damage symptoms, unilateral lower limb paresthesia and difficulty lifting leg. After treatment, the symptoms were gradually relieved and disappeared in the following weeks. One patient had soft tissue swelling of the right abdominal wall on the fourth day after operation. MRI showed hematoma and right-sided hydrothorax. Both patients did not receive any treatment, and symptoms were relieved later. **Conclusion:** This study has shown that combined procedure of cryoablation and vertebroplasty is a safe and effective procedure for pain relief in cancer patients with single vertebral and paravertebral metastases even when radiotherapy treatment has failed. In order to avoid damage to the spinal cord, careful needle positioning and accurate fluoroscopic and CT guidance are important.

[**Key words**] Vertebral and paravertebral metastases; Percutaneous cryoablation; Percutaneous vertebroplasty

椎体和椎旁转移是恶性肿瘤患者常见的并发症,常伴有疼痛。治疗方面,除了止痛药物,还包括放疗、激素治疗、双磷酸盐治疗和手术^[1]。对于新发或者即将发生的病理性骨折,手术可能是最有效的方法,但是只有少数患者可以接受手术治疗,多数患者因为体质不佳或疾病进展而不适合手术^[2]。大多数患者会选择放疗,放疗可以缓解疼痛,但通常起效时间会延迟,接受椎体放疗的患者中有20%~30%疼痛不缓解,部分患者放疗后疼痛会再次复发,这些患者往往没有其他治疗方式可以选择^[2-3]。在临床治疗中,除了考虑缓解疼痛,还应防止椎体压缩性骨折。经皮椎体成形术是在影像引导下经皮将骨穿刺针刺入病变椎体内,通过穿刺针向椎体内注射骨水泥。对于椎体转移瘤患者,该术式不但可以缓解肿瘤转移引起的疼痛^[4-7],还可以加固病变椎体的强度和刚度,防止骨折发生^[8-9],但是当椎体转移瘤累及椎旁组织引起疼痛后,单纯的骨水泥注射并不能完全缓解疼痛。尽管射频消融(radiofrequency ablation, RFA)也可以用于椎旁转移瘤的治疗,但是在局麻情况下,患者往往难以忍受持续的加热^[10]。另外,消融边界显示不清,只能通过软组织中的气泡间接判断边界,术中医生很难准确及时地识别消融的范围^[11]。

经皮冷冻消融术是在影像设备引导下将冷冻针穿刺入肿瘤内部,通过迅速降温对肿瘤进行原位灭活,而且可以在软组织背景衬托下通过CT扫描清晰显示消融边界^[11]。文献报道经皮冷冻消融也可以安全、有效地缓解转移瘤所

致的疼痛^[12-14]。因此,本研究的目的是评估经皮椎体成形术联合冷冻消融术治疗椎体及椎旁转移瘤所致疼痛的安全性和有效性。

1 资料和方法

1.1 患者资料收集

本研究为回顾性研究,由于多发椎体转移会引起广泛性疼痛,可能会影响患者对联合治疗方法的疗效判断,所以本研究回顾性分析时仅纳入单一椎体及椎旁转移的患者,并伴有相应部位的疼痛,所有患者术前签署手术知情同意书。

入组标准:单一椎体溶骨性转移并累及椎旁组织,相应椎体层面有中度以上疼痛,视觉模拟评分法(visual analogue scale, VAS)评分大于等于6,需要止痛药物控制疼痛。

排除标准:病灶累及脊髓,卡氏评分(Karnofsky Performance Status, KPS)评分小于等于30,多发性骨转移,严重凝血功能障碍。

所有患者首先在CT室接受经皮冷冻消融治疗,随后转至数字减影血管造影(digital subtraction angiography, DSA)手术室行经皮椎体成形术。

1.2 临床治疗方法

1.2.1 术前准备

所有患者术前均行病变椎体的CT扫描,根据转移灶的位置及大小设计进针穿刺点的位置和方向,模拟冰球形成的范围,确保脊髓不被冰球覆盖,冷冻针的数目由病灶大小决定。术前常规

完善血常规和凝血功能检查,确保无明显异常。

1.2.2 经皮冷冻消融

根据CT模拟的路线,手术部位常规消毒铺巾后,在CT引导下采用1%的利多卡因从后背皮肤进针点麻醉至椎弓根骨膜,采用13G骨穿刺针(山东冠龙医疗用品有限公司)经皮、经双侧椎弓根途径穿刺入病变椎体内,使针尖位置接近椎体前壁,去除穿刺针针芯,将冷冻针(以色列Galil Medical Ltd公司, Cryo-Hit, IceRod, 1.47 mm-17G)通过骨穿刺针插入至椎体内,其他冷冻针根据术前计划经皮直接插入至病变部位,冷冻针数目根据椎旁病灶大小决定。然后进行2个周期的冷冻和复温,每个周期冷冻10 min,复温5 min,在冷冻过程中一方面反复跟患者沟通交流,询问患者是否有双下肢疼痛、麻木等不适,如果有,应当立即停止冷冻,即使冷冻时间不足10 min;另一方面,每2~3 min复查一次CT以便观察低密度区域(称为“冰球”)是否累及脊髓,必要时通过调整冷冻时间和功率,改变冰球的尺寸和形状,防止冰球累及脊髓。

1.2.3 经皮椎体成形术

冷冻结束复温后,移除冷冻针,保留骨穿

刺针,将患者转移至DSA手术室,调和骨水泥(意大利Mendec Spine Resin公司)至拉丝状态,在标准侧位透视监控下用专用高压注射器向椎体内注射骨水泥,当骨水泥有渗漏发生时,停止注射骨水泥,待骨水泥凝固后,拔出穿刺针,包扎伤口,将患者送回病房观察。

所有患者术前均接受10 mg地西洋肌肉注射。记录术中及术后患者的任何异常不适主诉。

1.2.4 统计学处理

分别在术前及术后1、3和6个月对患者进行疼痛VAS评分,采用配对 t 检验对VAS变化进行统计分析。 $P < 0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。

2 结 果

2.1 临床资料分析

从2015年3月—2017年3月,共16例患者接受了冷冻消融联合椎体成形术治疗,平均年龄58.1岁,其中男性患者10例(10/16)。所有患者均有椎体和椎旁转移,并伴有中、重度的疼痛,2例患者既往曾行放疗但疼痛无缓解。平均注射骨水泥4.2 mL(表1)。

表 1 16例患者的临床资料

Tab. 1 Clinical characteristics of sixteen patients

Vertebra	Gender	Age/year	Primary disease	Cryoprobe number n	Bone cement volume V/mL	VAS changed and analgesic need			
						Before	1 month	3 months	6 months
T12	Male	71	Breast cancer	2	6	7(+)	3(+)	2(-)	2(-)
T10	Female	53	Colon cancer	2	4	6(+)	2(-)	2(-)	1(-)
T11	Male	50	Esophageal cancer	2	4	8(+)	1(-)	2(-)	2(-)
T9	Female	47	Lung adenocarcinoma	4	3	7(+)	3(+)	2(-)	1(-)
T12	Male	39	Hepatocellular carcinoma	5	5	6(+)	2(-)	1(-)	2(-)
T11	Female	61	Pancreatic cancer	3	3	8(+)	5(+)	2(-)	2(-)
L5	Male	64	Lung adenocarcinoma	2	5	9(+)	3(-)	2(-)	2(-)
L3	Female	62	Breast cancer	1	6	8(+)	2(-)	0(-)	0(-)
T11	Female	67	Hepatocellular carcinoma	2	3	6(+)	1(-)	1(-)	1(-)
T6	Male	51	Thyroid cancer	3	6	7(+)	2(-)	2(-)	1(-)
L5	Male	62	Lung adenocarcinoma	3	4	7(+)	3(-)	2(-)	2(-)
T11	Male	70	Lung adenocarcinoma	2	4	6(+)	0(-)	0(-)	0(-)
L4	Male	71	Colon cancer	2	4	8(+)	5(+)	2(-)	1(-)
L1	Female	53	Breast cancer	3	4	7(+)	2(-)	1(-)	2(-)
L1	Male	50	Esophageal cancer	4	4	7(+)	2(-)	2(-)	1(-)
T6	Female	47	Breast cancer	2	2	8(+)	2(-)	1(-)	1(-)

+: Need analgesic; -: No need analgesic

2.2 疼痛改善情况

同术前相比,术后1个月所有患者疼痛VAS评分减少($P<0.05$),3个月后进一步降低($P<0.05$),6个月时保持稳定($P>0.05$),不需要服用止痛药物。

2.3 安全性

3例患者因术中出现下肢不适只接受了一轮冷冻消融,其中2例患者术后第2天出现下肢功能障碍,相应的病变椎体分别为L4和L5,临床表现为股神经受损症状,单侧肢体麻木,抬腿困难,但患者下肢的温觉、痛觉、触觉均正常,每天给予地塞米松磷酸钠5 mg静脉注射和甘露醇125 mL静脉滴注1周后症状逐步缓解,随后逐渐恢复正常。1例患者(T12椎体转移)术后第4天出现右侧腹壁软组织肿胀,腹部MRI显示肌肉间隙水肿,右侧少量胸腔积液,考虑有少量出血,为冷冻针穿刺所致肋间动脉血管出血,右侧胸腔积液为冷冻消融所致,未予任何治疗,后来缓解。

3 讨 论

经皮椎体成形术可以缓解椎体转移瘤所致的疼痛,并能增加病变椎体的强度和刚度,但是对于椎旁软组织转移,骨水泥很难注射并均匀分布,经皮冷冻消融直接破坏肿瘤细胞并损伤微循环血管,达到控制肿瘤的目的^[15],不但可以控制肿瘤,还可以治疗肿瘤引起的疼痛^[12, 15]。冷冻消融的一个优点是形成的冰球可以在CT扫描图像上清晰显示,由于冰球的边界是0℃,在冷冻期通过CT扫描医者可以监控冰球的边界,达成安全的消融边界控制^[3]。

本研究结果显示,与术前相比,术后1个月患者的VAS评分显著降低,3个月时进一步降低,6个月时保持稳定,止痛效果明显。本研究表明,联合治疗可以显著缓解椎体及椎旁转移所致的疼痛,2例放疗后疼痛无缓解的患者,接受治疗后也达到了止痛的效果。尽管一些研究显示,对于骨转移瘤引起的疼痛经联合治疗可以迅速缓解,术后不需要服用止痛药物^[16-17]。但是根据我们的早期经验,一些患者术后会出

现明显的疼痛,甚至超过术前,持续几天后逐渐缓解,可能原因是文献报道的结果仅限于转移椎体,而本研究还包括了侵犯椎旁软组织,因此冷冻消融的范围会更大,这也更容易损伤椎体周围的神经丛,从而导致术后明显的疼痛,因此对于术后疼痛明显的患者我们会给予止痛治疗,为了减少手术反应对止痛效果的影响,我们在术后1个月采用VAS评分。

在椎体冷冻治疗中,最严重的并发症是脊髓和(或)神经根损伤,术中需要小心识别冰球范围是否累及脊髓或神经根。本研究中有2例患者术后出现了一侧肢体的神经功能障碍,经对症处理后缓解。由于股神经和坐骨神经是由腰丛和骶丛神经组成,因此,当进行腰椎的冷冻消融时,可能会出现相应的神经损伤并导致功能障碍,可采取如下办法避免神经损伤:首先在设计冷冻针布针位置时,应预估冰球范围,避免累及脊髓和神经根;其次,根据手术过程中的CT实时扫描情况,必要时缩短冷冻的时间和降低冷冻针功率,防止冰球累及脊髓和神经根;在冷冻过程中,应跟患者保持实时交流,以便及时发现患者下肢的异常情况,停止冷冻。

我们的研究显示,经皮冷冻消融治疗联合经皮椎体成形术可以有效缓解恶性肿瘤患者椎体及椎旁转移所致的疼痛,对于放疗止痛失败的患者,也可以达到止痛的目的,患者在局部麻醉下即可接受联合治疗,但是在手术过程中可能会出现损伤脊髓或神经根的风险,需要认真防范,重视并及时发现予以处理。本研究也存在一些不足,如没有采用前瞻性研究设立对照组,随访时间过短,没有关注总生存期等,需要今后进一步深入研究。

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