



· 论 著 ·

miR-26b-3p对乳腺癌细胞生物学行为的影响及作用机制研究

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[摘要] **背景与目的:** miRNA是一类长度为21~23个核苷酸的单链非编码RNA分子, 其作用机制主要为靶向于mRNA的3'非翻译区(3' untranslated region, 3'UTR)从而抑制其靶基因的表达。miRNA在肿瘤的发生、发展过程中发挥着关键作用, 探讨miR-26b-3p对乳腺癌生物学行为的影响及作用机制。**方法:**通过实时荧光定量聚合酶链反应(real-time fluorescence quantitative polymerase chain reaction, RTFQ-PCR)检测miR-26b-3p在三种乳腺癌细胞系MCF-7、MDA-MB-231和MDA-MB-453中的表达, 选取miR-26b-3p表达水平最低的乳腺癌细胞转染miR-26b-3p mimics后, 采用细胞计数试剂盒(cell counting kit-8, CCK-8)法检测细胞的增殖, 采用transwell迁移和侵袭实验检测细胞迁移和侵袭能力, 通过小动物活体成像及裸鼠移植瘤模型检测miR-26b-3p对乳腺癌细胞裸鼠移植瘤生长和转移的影响, 采用双荧光素酶报告基因分析检测miR-26b-3p与锌指E盒结合同源盒基因1(zinc finger E-box binding homeobox 1, ZEB1)的相互作用, 采用RTFQ-PCR和蛋白质印迹法(Western blot)检测ZEB1的表达。**结果:**乳腺癌细胞系MDA-MB-453中miR-26b-3p表达最低, 在MDA-MB-453细胞中转染miR-26b-3p mimics后, miR-26b-3p的表达水平显著升高($P<0.05$), 细胞的增殖能力显著降低($P<0.05$), 细胞的迁移($P<0.001$)和侵袭能力($P<0.01$)显著降低。过表达miR-26b-3p可抑制裸鼠体内乳腺癌移植瘤的生长和转移。miR-26b-3p可与ZEB1的3'UTR结合, 抑制ZEB1的表达。**结论:**miR-26b-3p可靶向于ZEB1, 抑制乳腺癌细胞的增殖、迁移和侵袭, 抑制乳腺癌的生长和转移。

[关键词] 乳腺癌; miR-26b-3p; 增殖; 迁移; 侵袭

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Effect of miR-26b-3p on biological behaviors of breast cancer cells and its molecular mechanism TIAN Lianfang, LI Liwei, ZHANG Xiaochong, ZHENG Lichun, ZUO Jianghua, SUN Chunxiu, LIU Dengxiang (Department of Clinical Laboratory, Xingtai People's Hospital, Xingtai 054001, Hebei Province, China)

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[Abstract] **Background and purpose:** miRNA is a type of single-stranded non-coding RNA molecule with a length of about 21-23 nucleotides, which mainly functions by targeting the 3' untranslated region (3'UTR) of mRNA so as to inhibit the expression of its target gene. miRNA plays a key role in the occurrence and development of cancer. This study aimed to explore the effect of miR-26b-3p on the biological characteristics of breast cancer and its mechanism. **Methods:** Real-time fluorescence quantitative polymerase chain reaction (RTFQ-PCR) was used to detect the expression level of miR-26b-3p in MCF-7, MDA-MB-231 and MDA-MB-453 breast cancer cell lines. miR-26b-3p mimics were transfected in the breast cancer cells with the lowest expression of miR-26b-3p. Cell proliferation was detected by cell counting kit-8 (CCK-8) assay, and cell migration and invasion abilities were detected by transwell migration and invasion assay. The effects of miR-26b-3p on the growth and metastasis of breast cancer xenografts in nude mice were detected by *in vivo* imaging system and *in vivo* metastasis model. Dual luciferase reporter assay was used to detect the interaction between miR-26b-3p and zinc finger E-box binding homeobox 1 (ZEB1). RTFQ-PCR and Western blot were used to detect the expression of ZEB1. **Results:** The expression of miR-26b-3p was the lowest in MDA-MB-453 cells. After transfection with

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miR-26b-3p mimics, the expression level of miR-26b-3p was significantly increased ($P<0.05$). After miR-26b-3p was overexpressed in MDA-MB-453 cells, the cell proliferation ($P<0.05$), migration ($P<0.001$) and invasion abilities ($P<0.01$) were significantly decreased. Overexpression of miR-26b-3p inhibited the growth and metastasis of breast cancer xenografts in nude mice. miR-26b-3p could bind the 3'UTR of *ZEB1*, and inhibit the expression of *ZEB1*. **Conclusion:** miR-26b-3p directly targets *ZEB1* and inhibits the proliferation, migration and invasion of breast cancer cells. miR-26b-3p inhibits breast cancer growth and metastasis.

[Key words] Breast cancer; miR-26b-3p; Proliferation; Migration; Invasion

乳腺癌是女性常见的恶性肿瘤之一。2018年的统计学数据显示, 乳腺癌占全球女性恶性肿瘤发病率的24.2%, 占女性恶性肿瘤死亡率的15.0%^[1]。在中国, 乳腺癌发病率也逐年上升, 且呈现年轻化的趋势。近年来, 随着分子生物学技术的发展, 越来越多的非编码RNA分子被发现与乳腺癌的发生、发展密切相关, 其中miRNA在乳腺癌研究领域占据着重要地位。

miRNA是一类长度为21~23个核苷酸的单链非编码RNA分子, 其作用机制主要为靶向于mRNA的3'非翻译区(3' untranslated region, 3'UTR)从而抑制其靶基因的表达^[2]。越来越多的研究^[3]证实, miRNA在肿瘤的发生、发展过程中发挥着关键作用。有研究^[4]证实, miR-26b-3p可靶向于泛素化特异性蛋白酶39(ubiquitin-specific protease 39, USP39), 在鼻咽癌的进展中发挥重要作用。然而, 关于miR-26b-3p在乳腺癌中的研究尚未见报道, 本研究探讨miR-26b-3p在乳腺癌细胞中的表达及对乳腺癌细胞生物学行为的影响, 为乳腺癌的防治提供新的线索。

1 材料和方法

1.1 细胞系及主要试剂

人乳腺癌细胞系MCF-7、MDA-MB-231和MDA-MB-453均购自武汉普诺赛生命科技有限公司。RPMI-1640培养基、胰蛋白酶和胎牛血清均购自美国Gibco公司, 青链霉素双抗混合液购自上海翊圣生物科技有限公司, Hiperfect Reagent转染试剂购自德国Qiagen公司, TRIzol Reagent购自美国Invitrogen公司, 实时荧光定量聚合酶链反应(real-time fluorescence quantitative polymerase chain reaction, RTFQ-PCR) Mix购自美国Promega公司, Hiperfect转染试剂购自德国

Qiagen公司, 细胞计数试剂盒(cell counting kit-8, CCK-8)购自美国MCE公司, 双荧光素酶报告试剂盒购自美国Promega公司, transwell小室购自美国Corning公司, Matrigel购自美国BD公司, BALB/c裸小鼠购自北京华阜康生物科技股份有限公司。

1.2 RTFQ-PCR检测miR-26b-3p在乳腺癌细胞系中的表达

采用RTFQ-PCR检测3种乳腺癌细胞系MCF-7、MDA-MB-231和MDA-MB-453中miR-26b-3p的表达水平。使用TRIzol提取细胞的总RNA, 使用美国Promega公司反转录和扩增试剂盒制备cDNA模板, 并进行RTFQ-PCR扩增, 条件为95℃ 5 min; 95℃ 15 s, 58℃ 30 s, 72℃ 30 s, 40个循环。miR-26b-3p和内参基因U6的特异性反转录和扩增引物购自广州锐博生物技术有限公司。采用 $2^{-\Delta\Delta Ct}$ 法计算miR-26b-3p的平均相对表达量。

1.3 miR-26b-3p mimics的转染

阴性对照(negative control, NC)和miR-26b-3p mimics质粒购自广州锐博生物技术有限公司。MDA-MB-453细胞长至对数生长期, 以 1×10^6 个细胞/孔种植于6孔板中培养24 h, 按照Hiperfect Reagent推荐的转染方法, 每孔中分别加入10 μ L的miR-26b-3p mimics或NC质粒和50 μ L不含胎牛血清的RPMI-1640培养基。另将4 μ L Hiperfect Reagent加至50 μ L不含胎牛血清的RPMI-1640培养基中, 分别混匀静置5 min。再将质粒与转染试剂混匀, 室温静置20 min, 加至每孔使终体积达到2 mL。转染6~8 h后, 更换新鲜的完全培养基, 继续温育24~48 h。

1.4 CCK-8实验检测细胞增殖

MDA-MB-453细胞长至对数生长期, 按照 5×10^3 个细胞/孔接种于96孔板中, 每孔加入

100 μ L细胞悬液。分别于第0、24、48、72和96 h时在每孔中加入10 μ L CCK-8试剂,轻轻摇匀后置于37 $^{\circ}$ C、CO₂体积分数为5%的细胞培养箱中温育1~2 h。使用酶标仪测量细胞于450 nm处的吸光度(D)值。

1.5 Transwell迁移和侵袭实验

将低温融化的Matrigel与无血清RPMI-1640培养液按照1:7稀释,混匀后加20 μ L到24孔板中,放置在37 $^{\circ}$ C、CO₂体积分数为5%的培养箱中过夜凝固。选取对数生长期的MDA-MB-453细胞重悬于200 μ L不含胎牛血清的RPMI-1640培养基中,按照 2×10^5 个细胞/孔的密度接种于transwell小室上,在24孔板的每孔中加入800 μ L带胎牛血清的RPMI-1640完全培养基。注意向24孔板中加Matrigel时检测细胞的侵袭能力,不加Matrigel时则检测细胞的迁移能力。在细胞培养箱中温育48 h后,用4%多聚甲醛溶液固定20 min,然后结晶紫染色10 min,在普通光学显微镜下观察计数穿膜的细胞数目并拍照。

1.6 动物实验

所有动物实验均经邢台市人民医院实验动物委员会批准。选用4周龄BALB/c裸小鼠,随机分为2组(每组5只)。荧光素酶标记的MDA-MB-453细胞(Luc-MDA-MB-453)转染miR-26b-3p mimics或NC 24 h后分别皮下注射BALB/c裸小鼠(每只裸小鼠注射0.2 mL浓度为 1×10^7 个细胞/mL的细胞悬液)建立人乳腺癌细胞裸小鼠移植瘤模型,每隔3 d通过皮下注射miR-26b-3p agomir和NC agomir,采用小动物活体成像技术检测移植瘤的大小。对于裸鼠的转移瘤模型,选用4周龄BALB/c裸小鼠,随机分为2组(每组5只)。MDA-MB-453细胞株转染miR-26b-3p mimics或NC后分别经尾静脉注射裸小鼠(每只裸小鼠注射0.2 mL浓度为 1×10^5 个细胞/mL的细胞悬液),每隔3 d通过尾静脉注射miR-26b-3p agomir和NC agomir,12周后处死,解剖肝组织计数转移瘤的结节数目,然后将肝组织固定于4%多聚甲醛溶液中,作H-E染色检测病理学改变。

1.7 双荧光素酶报告基因分析

将miR-26b-3p mimic和锌指E盒结合同源盒

基因1(zinc finger E-box binding homeobox 1, ZEB1) 3'UTR野生型(wild-type, WT)或突变型(mutant, MUT)同时转染到HEK-293T细胞中,转染后48 h收集细胞,用双荧光素酶报告系统进行分析。

1.8 统计学处理

采用SPSS 22.0软件进行数据分析。计量资料的数据用 $\bar{x} \pm s$ 表示,组间的两两比较采用Student's *t*检验。 $P < 0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。

2 结 果

2.1 miR-26b-3p在乳腺癌细胞系中的表达

本实验选取3种人乳腺癌细胞系MCF-7、MDA-MB-231和MDA-MB-453,采用RTFQ-PCR检测这3种细胞系中miR-26b-3p的表达水平。结果显示,乳腺癌细胞系MCF-7、MDA-MB-231和MDA-MB-453中miR-26b-3p的相对表达量分别为 1.01 ± 0.08 、 4.57 ± 0.28 和 8.37 ± 0.29 (图1)。其中,MDA-MB-453细胞中miR-26b-3p的表达水平最低,因此选用MDA-MB-453细胞进行miR-26b-3p的过表达实验。

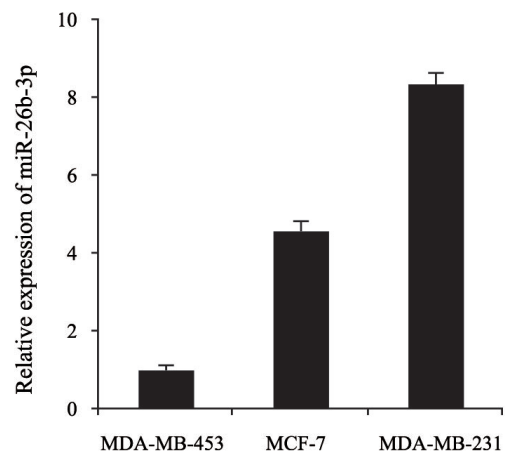


图1 miR-26b-3p在3种乳腺癌细胞系MCF-7、MDA-MB-231和MDA-MB-453中的表达

Fig. 1 miR-26b-3p expression in three human breast cancer cell lines MCF-7, MDA-MB-231 and MDA-MB-453

2.2 转染miR-26b-3p mimics对乳腺癌细胞MDA-MB-453中miR-26b-3p表达的影响

本实验利用miR-26b-3p模拟物miR-26b-3p mimics转染乳腺癌细胞MDA-MB-453后,通

过RTFQ-PCR检测细胞中miR-26b-3p的转染效率。miR-26b-3p mimics转染组的MDA-MB-453细胞中miR-26b-3p的表达水平与NC组相比显著升高, 差异有统计学意义 ($1\ 206.00 \pm 23.12$ vs 1.00 ± 0.05 , $P < 0.05$, 图2)。这表明MDA-MB-453细胞中miR-26b-3p过表达成功。

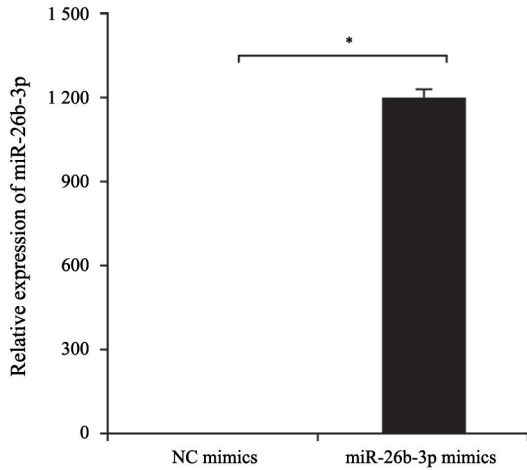


图2 RTFQ-PCR检测miR-26b-3p mimics转染后MDA-MB-453细胞中miR-26b-3p表达的变化

Fig. 2 The expression of miR-26b-3p in MDA-MB-453 cells transfected with miR-26b-3p mimics or NC control was detected by RTFQ-PCR

The results showed that miR-26b-3p was highly expressed in MDA-MB-453 cells after miR-26b-3p mimics transfection. *: $P < 0.05$, compared with NC mimics group

2.3 miR-26b-3p抑制乳腺癌细胞的增殖

将miR-26b-3p mimics转染至乳腺癌细胞MDA-MB-453后, 采用CCK-8法检测miR-26b-3p

对乳腺癌细胞增殖能力的影响。在转染72、96 h后, miR-26b-3p过表达组中MDA-MB-453的增殖能力与NC组相比显著降低, 差异有统计学意义 ($P < 0.05$, 图3)。

2.4 miR-26b-3p抑制乳腺癌细胞的迁移和侵袭能力

采用transwell迁移和侵袭实验检测miR-26b-3p对乳腺癌细胞MDA-MB-453迁移和侵袭能力的影响。转染miR-26b-3p mimics组中细胞的迁移和侵袭数目与NC组相比显著减少, 差异有统计学意义 ($P < 0.05$, 图4)。

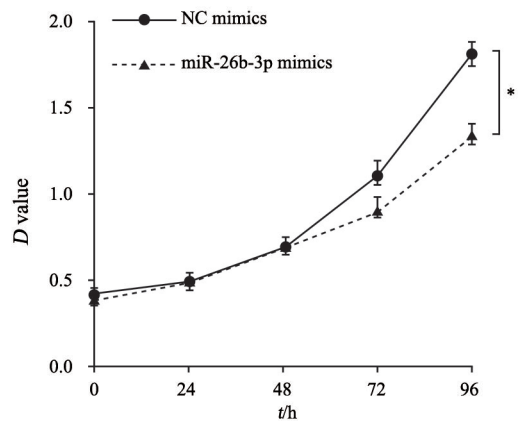


图3 通过CCK-8法检测miR-26b-3p对乳腺癌细胞MDA-MB-453增殖能力的影响

Fig. 3 The effect of miR-26b-3p on the proliferation of breast cancer cell MDA-MB-453 was measured by CCK-8 assay *: $P < 0.05$, compared with NC mimics group

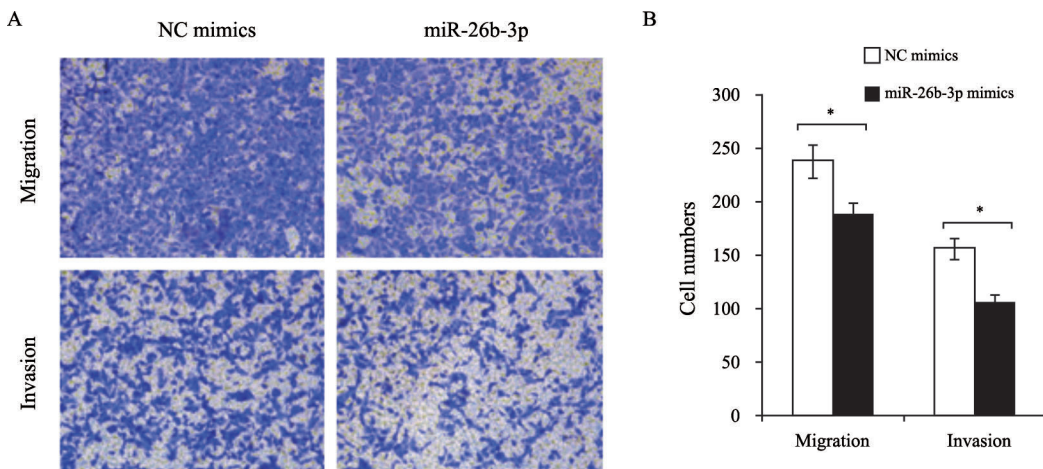


图4 Transwell实验检测转染miR-26b-3p mimics后乳腺癌细胞MDA-MB-453的迁移和侵袭能力

Fig. 4 The migration and invasion abilities of MDA-MB-453 cells after transfection with miR-26b-3p mimics were detected by transwell migration and invasion assay

*: $P < 0.05$, compared with NC mimics group

2.5 miR-26b-3p抑制乳腺癌细胞裸鼠移植瘤的生长和转移

小动物活体成像结果显示, 转染miR-26b-3p mimics后, 乳腺癌细胞裸鼠移植瘤的生长显著降

低, 差异有统计学意义 ($P < 0.05$, 图5)。乳腺癌裸小鼠肝转移模型结果显示, 转染miR-26b-3p agomir后, 乳腺癌细胞肝转移的能力显著降低, 差异有统计学意义 ($P < 0.05$, 图6)。

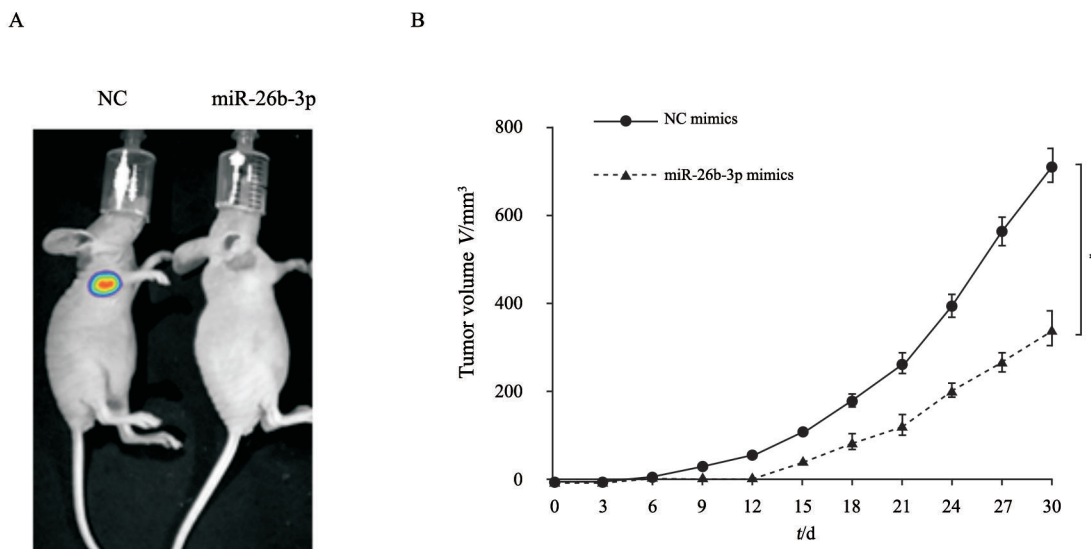


图5 小动物活体成像结果显示, 转染miR-26b-3p mimics后, 乳腺癌细胞裸鼠移植瘤的生长显著降低

Fig. 5 *In vivo* imaging system results revealed that enforced expression of miR-26b-3p inhibited tumor growth of breast cancer xenografts
A: *In vivo* imaging system results. B: Tumor growth curve; *: $P < 0.05$, compared with NC mimics group

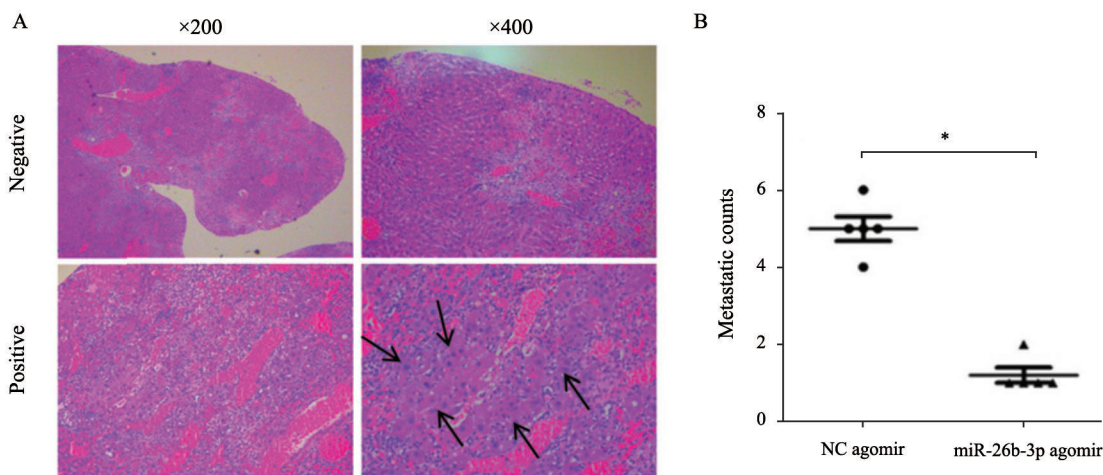


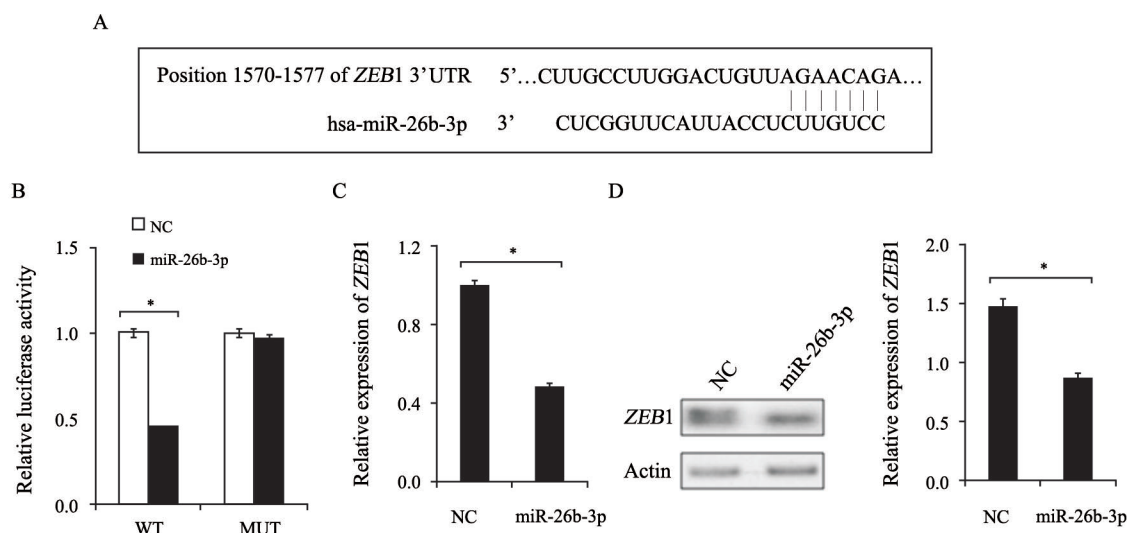
图6 裸鼠肝转移模型结果显示, 转染miR-26b-3p mimics后, 乳腺癌细胞肝转移能力显著下降

Fig. 6 Liver metastatic model results revealed that enforced expression of miR-26b-3p inhibited breast cancer metastasis
A: Positive and negative liver metastasis. B: Metastatic counts observed by naked eyes; *: $P < 0.05$, compared with NC agomir group

2.6 miR-26b-3p靶向调控ZEB1

TargetScan在线数据库预测发现, ZEB1是miR-26b-3p的靶基因之一, 其结合位点见图7A, 双荧光素酶报告基因分析结果显示, miR-26b-3p显著抑制野生型ZEB1 3'UTR荧光素酶活性 ($P < 0.05$), 而对突变型ZEB1 3'UTR荧光素酶活性无影响

(图7B)。RTFQ-PCR和Western检测结果显示, 过表达miR-26b-3p后显著下调MDA-MB-453细胞中ZEB1基因和蛋白的表达水平 ($P < 0.05$, 图7C~D)。结果表明, ZEB1是miR-26b-3p的直接靶基因, 且miR-26b-3p可负调控ZEB1的表达。

图7 *ZEB1*是miR-26b-3p的靶基因Fig. 7 *ZEB1* is a target gene of miR-26b-3p

A: The bioinformatics results showed that miR-26b-3p had a binding site for *ZEB1*. B: Dual-luciferase reporter assay was used to verify the relationship between miR-26b-3p and *ZEB1*. C, D: RTFQ-PCR and Western blot were used to detect the expression of *ZEB1*. *: $P < 0.05$, compared with NC agomir group

3 讨 论

miRNA是近年来研究较为广泛的一类非编码RNA分子,其在真核细胞内普遍存在,其作用机制主要为靶向于mRNA的3'UTR,从而抑制下游靶基因的表达^[5]。多项研究^[6-9]表明,miRNA在恶性肿瘤的发生、发展中发挥至关重要的作用,其参与肿瘤细胞的多种生物学功能,包括细胞的增殖、凋亡、侵袭、转移、自噬及化疗耐药等。然而,关于miR-26b-3p在肿瘤中的研究还较少,尤其在乳腺癌中的研究尚未见报道。

本研究采用RTFQ-PCR检测了3种乳腺癌细胞系中miR-26b-3p的表达水平,发现miR-26b-3p在乳腺癌细胞系MDA-MB-453中的表达水平最低。因此,本研究采用MDA-MB-453转染miR-26b-3p mimics,采用CCK-8实验、transwell迁移和侵袭实验检测miR-26b-3p对乳腺癌细胞增殖、迁移和侵袭能力的影响。本研究结果表明,miR-26b-3p能够抑制乳腺癌细胞的增殖、迁移和侵袭能力。体内裸小鼠移植瘤和转移瘤实验表明,miR-26b-3p能够抑制乳腺癌裸小鼠移植瘤的生长和转移。为进一步探究miR-26b-3p影响乳腺癌功能的分子机制,本研究采用TargetScan在线数据库对miR-

26b-3p的下游靶基因进行预测,结果发现miR-26b-3p与*ZEB1*存在结合位点。

*ZEB1*是一种具有锌指结构域的转录因子,其在乳腺癌中广泛表达且调节多种生物学功能,包括细胞的增殖、分化、血管生成、化疗耐药、干细胞活性、上皮-间充质转化及肿瘤转移等^[10-16]。*ZEB1*在细胞中的调控机制目前还未完全阐明,miRNA有可能参与了肿瘤发展过程中*ZEB1*的调控。本研究结果表明,miR-26b-3p能够通过直接结合*ZEB1*从而抑制乳腺癌细胞中*ZEB1*的表达,从而抑制乳腺癌细胞的增殖、迁移和侵袭能力。本研究初步阐明了miR-26b-3p作为非编码RNA在乳腺癌细胞中发挥的生物学功能及其潜在的分子机制,为今后进行深入研究奠定了必要的基础。

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