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医学影像物理

## 自身免疫性肝炎核磁共振成像的临床价值

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**【摘要】目的:**探讨自身免疫性肝炎(AIH)患者的核磁共振成像(MRI)的影像学表现,以提高其诊断准确性。**方法:**回顾性分析2011年10月~2016年11月中山大学附属第三医院收治,并经临床、生化、免疫学及病理证实的31例AIH患者影像资料。所有研究对象均行MRI检查,总结相关MRI影像学图像特点。**结果:**①肝脏形态学改变及信号异常:25例全肝肿大,且肝实质T<sub>2</sub>加权像(T<sub>2</sub>WI)序列信号增高,扩散加权序列(DWI)增高或不高;4例肝脏形态正常,T<sub>2</sub>WI序列信号正常;2例肝脏体积缩小,并肝表面多发结节形成,T<sub>2</sub>WI信号不均匀降低。②继发性改变:31例脾均增大,4例门静脉主干增粗、胃底及脾静脉延长迂曲,13例腹腔少量积液形成,14例肝内门脉周围间隙增宽,21例胆囊窝少量积液及胆囊壁增厚。③其他:10例肝内胆管轻度扩张,所有患者均无淋巴结肿大改变。**结论:**AIH的MRI影像学特点包括肝、脾肿大;肝实质T<sub>2</sub>WI及DWI信号增高及胆囊窝积液多见,可伴有肝内胆管扩张;而肝脏萎缩及肝硬化结节形成等晚期肝硬化征象少见;较少伴有淋巴结肿大;癌变罕见。MRI或可作为AIH影像学一项有效的检查手段。

**【关键词】**自身免疫性肝炎;磁共振成像;肝肿大;脾肿大

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## Magnetic resonance imaging in the diagnosis of autoimmune hepatitis

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**Abstract:** Objective To analyze the magnetic resonance imaging (MRI) features of patients with autoimmune hepatitis (AIH) and to improve the diagnostic accuracy of MRI for AIH. Methods From October 2011 to November 2016, admitted to the Third Affiliated Hospital, Sun Yat-sen University, 31 patients with clinically, biochemically, immunologically and pathologically-confirmed AIH were selected. The MRI imaging data of 31 selected patients were retrospectively analyzed, and the MRI features related to AIH were reviewed and analyzed. Results Hepatomegaly was detected in 25 patients showing hyperintensity on T<sub>2</sub>-weighted imaging (T<sub>2</sub>WI) and slight hyperintensity or constant signal intensity on diffuse weighted imaging (DWI); 4 patients had normal liver morphology with normal T<sub>2</sub>WI signal, and 2 patients had hepatomegaly with multiple nodules on the liver surface and heterogeneous hypointensity on T<sub>2</sub>WI. The secondary changes included splenomegaly (31 cases), main portal vein enlargement with esophageal and gastric fundus varices (4 cases), ascites (13 cases), enlarged preportal space (14 cases), and gallbladder wall thickening and gallbladder fossa fluid (21 cases). Intrahepatic biliary dilatation was detected in 10 patients, and none of the 31 patients had retroperitoneal lymphadenopathy. Conclusion The MRI features of AIH patients include hepatomegaly and splenomegaly, commonly with hyperintensity on T<sub>2</sub>WI and DWI of liver parenchyma, gallbladder fossa fluid, maybe accompanied with intrahepatic biliary dilatation. Few of AIH patients show signs of advanced cirrhosis, such as hepatomegaly, surface nodularities with cirrhosis. Lymphadenopathy is uncommon, and cancer is rare in AIH patients. MRI may be a valuable tool for the diagnosis of AIH.

**Keywords:** autoimmune hepatitis; magnetic resonance imaging; hepatomegaly; splenomegaly

## 前言

自身免疫性肝炎(Autoimmune Hepatitis, AIH)是一组具体发病机制尚未明确的慢性肝病,伴血清自身抗体、高丙种球蛋白血症、肝细胞变性及坏死,最终导致肝脏慢性纤维化及组织学改变的反应性肝病<sup>[1]</sup>。多见于中年女性,男女发病率约为1.0:3.6<sup>[2]</sup>。AIH临床表现

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多样,或无症状,可发展成急性、爆发性肝衰竭,最终将发展成肝硬化。AIH实验室检查血清ALT与AST升高、高γ-球蛋白血症、自身抗体阳性,界面性肝炎和肝门部浆细胞浸润是组织病理学主要特征。诊断该病需排除病毒性肝炎、药物性肝炎以及其他疾病引起的肝病。AIH影像学检查报道较少<sup>[2-3]</sup>。目前,AIH并无特征性诊断依据,主要依靠典型临床特征、生化、免疫学及组织病理学检查<sup>[4]</sup>。由于本病病因及发病机制尚未完全阐明,故目前尚无特效的治疗方法。本研究通过收集AIH患者核磁共振成像(Magnetic Resonance Imaging, MRI)图像资料,分析其图像特征,以期为临床提供影像学诊断依据。

## 1 资料与方法

### 1.1 研究对象

收集2011年10月~2016年11月期间中山大学附属第三医院AIH患者31例,其中男14例、女17例,年龄15~69岁,平均43.4岁(SD=3.7);其中合并血管瘤3例,合并肝囊肿8例。排除以胆管损害及胆汁淤积为主原发性硬化性胆管炎以及原发性胆汁性肝硬化<sup>[5-9]</sup>。所有病例均经临床、生化、免疫学及组织病理确诊。

### 1.2 仪器与方法

采用GE1.5 T超导型MRI扫描仪,体部8通道阵列线圈。患者空腹4 h以上,扫描前30 min口服600 mL对比剂,2%~4%葡萄糖酸亚铁溶液充盈肠道。扫描序列:T<sub>1</sub>加权像(T<sub>1</sub>-Weighted Imaging, T<sub>1</sub>WI)双回波序列、T<sub>1</sub>WI及T<sub>2</sub>加权像(T<sub>2</sub>-Weighted Imaging, T<sub>2</sub>WI)脂肪抑制序列、扩散加权成像(Diffused Weighted Imaging, DWI)序列(b=600 s/mm<sup>2</sup>)。LAVA肝脏动态增强扫描序列:TR 3.7 ms、TE 1.7 ms,层厚5 mm,层间距1.0 mm;矩阵256×256;扫描视野36 cm×36 cm。采用高压注射器经肘静脉注射,按0.2 mmol/kg体质量团注钆喷酸葡胺(Gd-DTPA)及20 mL生理盐水,注射流速2.5 mL/s。所有患者均行平扫、动脉期(对比剂注射后15 s)、门脉期(对比剂注射后45 s后)、静脉期(对比剂注射后70 s)、延迟期(对比剂注射后180 s)扫描。

### 1.3 图像分析

由2名放射科副主任医师共同阅片。意见不一致时经协商达成一致,并对患者进行随访追踪。

## 2 结 果

AIH患者MRI表现如图1所示,31例AIH患者

的MRI图像特征分析详见表1。脾肿大31例,肝肿大、T<sub>2</sub>WI信号弥漫性增高25例,胆囊窝少量积液、胆囊壁增厚21例,肝内门脉间隙增宽14例,少量腹腔积液13例,肝内胆管轻度扩张10例,门脉主干增粗4例,肝表面结节及附脐静脉开放2例。

### 2.1 肝脏形态及信号异常

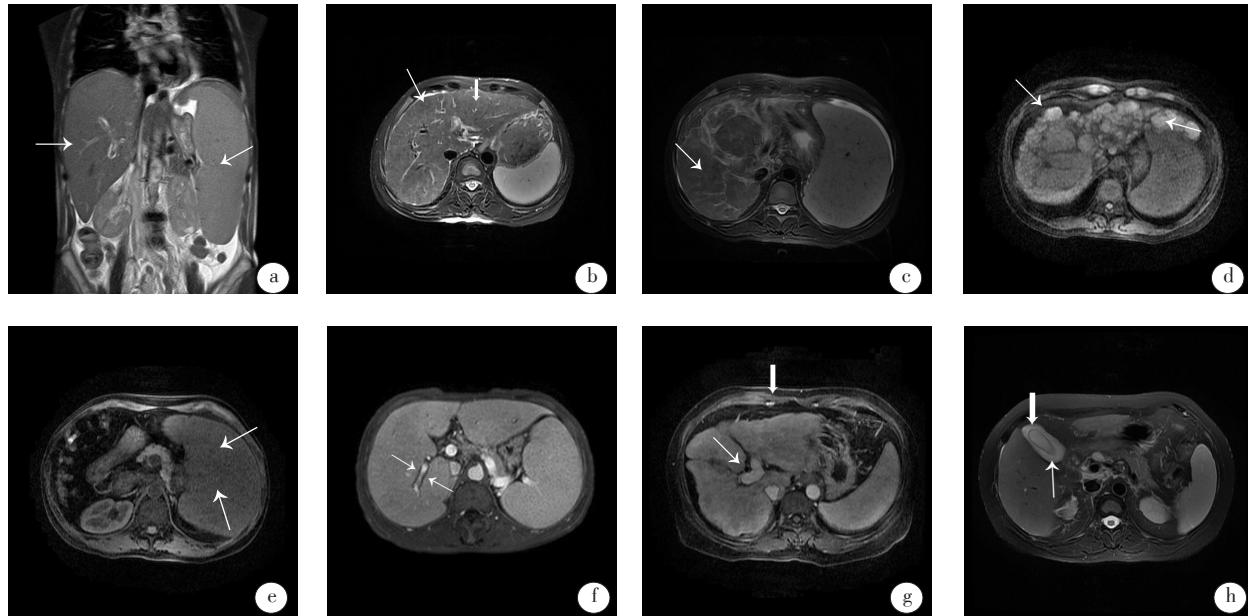
31例患者中,25例全肝肿大(图1a),平均长、宽、厚度分别为(25.8±2.4)、(15.2±1.6)和(5.8±1.1) cm,T<sub>2</sub>WI信号弥漫性增高(图1b),DWI信号轻度增高或不高;4例肝脏形态正常,T<sub>2</sub>WI信号正常;2例肝脏体积缩小(图1c),长、宽、厚度分别约为19.3、11.2和3.5 cm,T<sub>2</sub>WI信号不均匀降低,DWI信号正常,并可见肝表面多发结节形成(图1d),最大结节约为2.5 cm×2.0 cm,T<sub>1</sub>WI呈稍高信号,T<sub>2</sub>WI呈稍低信号,增强扫描未见明显强化。针对肝脏体积缩小的2例病例随访2年,所有结节大小、信号及形态未见明显改变。

### 2.2 继发性改变

31例患者脾脏均增大(图1a),平均长、宽、厚度分别为(17.6±2.1)、(12.2±0.9)和(6.8±0.6) cm。其中,2例脾脏可见多发斑点状T<sub>1</sub>W<sub>1</sub>、T<sub>2</sub>W<sub>1</sub>低信号(图1e),余脾脏信号正常。14例肝内门脉间隙增宽,增宽3~27 mm,平均(10.5±1.7) mm,门脉周围呈“轨道征”(图1f)。4例食道下段胃底静脉曲张及脾静脉增粗、迂曲,门脉主干增粗(图1g),增粗16~19 mm。2例附脐静脉开放。21例胆囊窝少量积液、胆囊壁增厚(图1h),增厚3~5 mm。13例少量腹腔积液形成。10例可见肝内胆管轻度扩张,扩张8.5~9.1 mm,胆总管无明显扩张。31例均未出现肝门部、腹膜后淋巴结肿大。

### 2.3 肝穿刺组织病理、免疫组化结果

本研究中的所有AIH患者肝脏均存在不同程度纤维化,肝小叶正常结构破坏,肝细胞不同程度破坏,呈点状、片状及桥接状坏死,肝小叶内、汇管区及肝界板可见炎性细胞浸润,多以淋巴细胞、浆细胞浸润和单核细胞为主。AIH患者的肝脏表面结节同样具有上述病理特征,而肝硬化再生结节中的肝细胞和枯否细胞的形态和功能基本正常,肝小叶内、汇管区及肝界板炎性细胞浸润少见,仅是组织结构不同于正常肝脏,影响其发挥正常功能。AIH患者的网状纤维染色显示汇管区纤维增生分割肝小叶,此外, AIH患者的乙型肝炎表面抗原(HbsAg)(-),乙型肝炎病毒核心蛋白(HbcAg)(-),丙型肝炎病毒(HCV)(-);血中自身抗体(ANA、SMA、SLA、LKM、AS-GPR)(+).



The coronal T<sub>2</sub>WI MRI image from a 42-year-old man with AIH (Fig.1a) shows hepatomegaly and splenomegaly which are close to the anterior superior spine (arrow). The axial T<sub>2</sub>WI MRI image from a 54-year-old man with AIH (Fig.1b) shows hepatomegaly and diffuse hyperintensity (thick arrow) and a small amount of ascites with linear hyperintensity on T<sub>2</sub>WI (thin arrow). The axial T<sub>2</sub>WI MRI image from a 38-year-old woman with AIH (Fig.1c) shows hepatatrophia and heterogeneous hypointensity (arrow). The axial T<sub>2</sub>WI MRI image from a 41-year-old woman with AIH (Fig.1d) shows hepatatrophia and a few surface nodules with hyperintensity (arrow). The axial enhanced T<sub>1</sub>WI MRI image from a 32-year-old woman with AIH (Fig.1e) shows splenomegaly and multiple dots of genistein deposition with hypointensity (arrow). The axial enhanced T<sub>1</sub>WI MRI image from a 39-year-old man with AIH (Fig.1f) shows enlarged right intrahepatic portal vein space with "orbital sign" (arrow). The axial enhanced T<sub>1</sub>WI MRI image from a 47-year-old woman with AIH (Fig.1g) shows phase portal vein thickening (thin arrow) and paraumbilical open (thick arrow). The axial T<sub>2</sub>WI MRI image from a 44-year-old man with AIH (Fig.1h) shows gallbladder fossa fluid with hyperintensity (thin arrow) and gallbladder wall thickening with hypointensity (thick arrow); T<sub>2</sub>WI: T<sub>2</sub>-weighted imaging; T<sub>1</sub>: T<sub>1</sub>-weighted imaging; MRI: Magnetic resonance imaging; AIH: Autoimmune hepatitis

图1 自身免疫性肝炎患者MRI表现

Fig.1 MRI features of AIH patients

表1 31例AIH患者MRI图像特征分析

Tab.1 MRI features of 31 AIH patients

Feature	n (%)
Splenomegaly	31 (100.0)
Hepatomegaly	25 (80.6)
Hyperintensity on T <sub>2</sub> WI	25 (80.6)
Gallbladder wall thickening	21(67.7)
Gallbladder fossa fluid	21 (67.7)
Enlarged intrahepatic portal vein space	14 (45.2)
Ascites	13 (41.9)
Intrahepatic biliary dilatation	10 (32.3)
Esophageal and gastric fundus varices	4 (12.9)
Surface nodularity	2 (6.5)
Paraumbilical open	2 (6.5)
Retroperitoneal lymphadenopathy	0 (0.0)

### 3 讨论

MRI检查对腹腔实质脏器形态、信号改变、胆道系统及肝外病变显示具有一定优势。本组31例患者MRI图像表现多样,包括肝脏体积正常到终末期慢性肝病病例。25/31例患者肝脏外形增大,各叶比例基本协调,而病毒性肝炎、药物性肝炎等肝病早期也可以引起肝硬化肝肿大,但各叶比例不协调,这与Sahni等<sup>[2]</sup>所研究的AIH患者肝脏形态大小改变基本一致。但Bilaj等<sup>[10]</sup>研究表明,94%AIH患者(30/32)肝脏形态以萎缩改变为主,处于肝移植状态。本研究仅2例患者肝脏外形缩小,并可见肝表面结节形成,推测与Bilaj等<sup>[10]</sup>研究结论不同的原因在于其研究所纳入的患者均已发展为肝硬化,这可能与AIH界面性肝炎及浆细胞浸润为主的肝实质损害,较病毒性肝炎的肝实质损害发生肝硬化的进展慢,导致肝硬化等继发性改变较少有关。本研究发现肝脏外形增大患者的T<sub>2</sub>WI信号增高,这是由于AIH病理上出现肝脏界面性炎症,引起肝细胞变性、水肿及



损害所致;DWI信号也轻度增高或不高,说明肝实质细胞内水分子扩散运动部分受限所致,动态增强未见明显强化。肝脏汇管区炎症一般较少波及胆道系统,故AIH较少发生胆道系统扩张,本研究仅有10例患者出现肝内胆管轻度扩张。肝脏参与人体多种体液调节,肝细胞损害时出现水钠潴留,并可出现腹腔积液及胆囊窝周围少量积液,胆囊壁增厚,本研究出现13例腹腔积液、21例胆囊积液及胆囊壁增厚。当病变更呈慢性改变,会出现肝硬化,脾肿大、食道下段胃底静脉曲张,这可能与肝脏出现纤维化有一定关系,本研究中的全部患者均出现脾大。

据文献报道,大多数AIH患者共同特点是肝脏表面结节<sup>[2]</sup>。但同肝硬化结节有着本质不同,随访中AIH患者的肝表面结节大小、形态及信号一般不会出现变化,并很少癌变;而肝硬化结节一般出现在慢性病毒性肝炎演变成肝硬化患者中,结节T<sub>1</sub>WI呈高信号、T<sub>2</sub>WI呈低信号,随访中,结节出现进行性增大,结节T<sub>2</sub>WI低信号变成高信号,或部分出现高信号,即“结中结”现象,结节从门脉供血转化到肝动脉供血,则说明结节发生癌变<sup>[11-14]</sup>。本研究中仅2例肝硬化表面结节患者,随访2年,结节大小、形态及信号未见改变。Sahni等<sup>[2]</sup>研究表明,对于AIH的肝表面结节,CT的检出率为50%、MRI可达到66.7%;并认为肝表面结节只出现在AIH患者而不出现在肝硬化患者中,提示肝表面结节同肝萎缩密切相关,而不是肝硬化再生结节。

汇管区及其周围炎症可出现门脉周围水肿、炎症,引起肝内淋巴回流淤滞,导致门脉间隙增宽,形成“轨道征”。本研究中14例出现门脉间隙扩大,即“轨道征”,T<sub>2</sub>WI序列表现为门脉周围高信号环,增强扫描T<sub>1</sub>WI序列为低信号环。本研究所有患者肝门区、腹膜后均未见肿大淋巴结,不同于病毒性肝炎等其他肝病肝门区、腹膜后多伴有淋巴结肿大<sup>[15]</sup>。

AIH的MRI影像学表现尽管多种多样,但肝、脾肿大,肝实质T<sub>2</sub>WI信号增高可能是该病的特征性表现,同时,胆囊窝积液也多见,可伴有肝内胆管扩张;而肝脏萎缩、肝硬化结节形成等晚期肝硬化征象少见;较少伴有淋巴结肿大;癌变罕见。当患者MRI检查发现以上征象时,需结合临床、实验室检查考虑AIH的可能。早期诊断是进一步治疗的关键。MRI无创、无辐射及多序列成像,为早期诊断提供了条件。本研究不足之处在于纳入病例数较少,无法进行统计学处理分析,今后需要进一步扩大样本量,借以更好地发现AIH特征性的影像学表现,为临床提供可靠的诊断依据。

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