

能谱CT定量参数与骨生物力学的相关性

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【摘要】目的:采用能谱CT定量参数检测方法评估骨质疏松并探讨能谱CT定量参数与骨生物力学的相关性。**方法:**选取SPF级别雌性SD大鼠20只,采用随机数字表法分为2组:假手术组(A组)、单纯去势组(B组),每组10只。B组进行双侧卵巢切除法制作骨质疏松大鼠模型,继续饲养3月,双能X线骨密度仪测定大鼠全身骨密度确定模型成功,然后能谱CT定量参数测定在体骨密度后处死大鼠,收集腰椎L4去除附件椎体,行腰椎压缩实验后灰化称量灰重,将能谱CT不同定量参数(羟基磷灰石-水基物质对、钙-水基物质对、铁-水基物质对、血-水基物质对)所得的骨密度值分别与灰重密度值、L4压缩试验所得生物力学值进行相关性分析。**结果:**能谱CT定量参数测得骨密度值与灰重密度值相关性分析可得,采用羟基磷灰石-水基物质对、钙-水基物质对相关性强,且羟基磷灰石-水基物质对相关性最好,而铁-水基物质对、血-水基物质对相关性较差;能谱CT定量参数与生物力学相关性分析同样得出在采用羟基磷灰石-水基物质对时弹性模量、最大载荷相关性最好。**结论:**能谱CT成像所得骨密度值与灰重密度值、骨生物力学变化趋势均一致。能谱CT成像在采用羟基磷灰石-水基物质对时,与灰重密度值相关性最好,同样也与骨生物力学相关性最好,是评价骨强度的最佳定量参数。

【关键词】能谱CT;灰重密度;骨生物力学;骨质疏松;相关性

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Correlation between energy spectrum CT quantitative parameters and bone biomechanics

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Abstract: Objective To evaluate osteoporosis by the detection of energy spectrum CT quantitative parameters, and explore the correlation between energy spectrum CT quantitative parameters and bone biomechanics. **Methods** Twenty female Sprague-Dawley rats without special pathogen were selected and randomly divided into two groups, namely sham operation group (group A) and simple castration group (group B), with 10 rats in each group. The rats in group B were subjected to bilateral oophorectomy to establish an osteoporotic rat model and continued to be fed for 3 months. Dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry was used to measure the whole body bone mineral density (BMD) in order to determine whether the model was successfully established. After the *in vivo* BMD was measured with energy spectrum CT quantitative parameters, the rats were sacrificed and lumbar vertebra L4 was collected for further experiment and the attachment vertebral body was removed. After the lumbar compression test, the ash weight was measured. The correlation of BMD obtained by different energy spectrum CT quantitative parameters (hydroxyapatite-water-based material pair, calcium-water-based material pair, iron-water-based material pair and blood-water-based material pair) with ash density values and the biomechanical values obtained from the L4 compression test were analyzed. **Results** The correlation analysis between BMD obtained by different energy spectrum CT quantitative parameters and ash density values showed that hydroxyapatite-water-based material pairs and calcium-water-based material pairs had strong correlations with the ash density values, and that hydroxyapatite-water-based material pairs had the best correlation, but iron-water-based

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material pairs and blood-based material pairs had poor correlations. The correlation analysis between energy spectrum CT quantitative parameters and biomechanics also showed that the correlation of base material with elastic modulus and the maximum load was the best when using hydroxyapatite-water-based material pairs. **Conclusion** The BMD obtained by energy spectrum CT imaging are consistent with the change trends of ash density values and bone biomechanics. The hydroxyapatite-water-based material pairs of energy spectrum CT imaging has the best correlation with the ash density values, and the best correlation with bone biomechanics, which makes it the best quantitative parameter for bone strength evaluation.

Keywords: energy spectrum CT; ash density; bone biomechanics; osteoporosis; correlation

前言

骨质疏松症是一种以系统骨量、骨强度及骨微结构损害为特征,以单位体积内骨组织量减少为特点的代谢性骨病变。而骨质疏松的诊断及检测往往存在着不足,容易造成漏诊和误诊,常常导致骨质疏松性骨折^[1-3]。目前,在骨质疏松诊断中以X线吸收法(Dualenergy X-rayabsorptiometry, DXA)为“金标准”,具有测量速度快、简便、受辐射少、敏感性高等优势^[4]。但是DXA在测量骨密度(Bone Mineral Density, BMD)时也存在诸多局限性,例如:测量结果是区域内的面积骨密度、难以区分骨的皮质和松质、测量受很多外部因素(骨折、人体软组织厚度,动脉壁钙化等)影响^[5-6]。研究表明影响骨强度的因素主要包括骨量因素和骨质量因素。骨密度的变化不能完全诊断和预测患者骨质疏松,应该结合其他因素,例如,是否吸烟和使用激素,结合骨生物力学参数等共同评价骨质疏松^[7]。然而,骨生物力学在人体内评价具有局限性^[8-9]。能谱CT,以瞬时双电压(kVp)切换技术为核心,可以获得101个单能量(40~140 keV)图像,还可以进行物质分离,获得各种基物质密度图像,这些基物质图像可以应用于不同病灶成分物质成分的分离和定量分析,例如对结石及痛风结节成分的判定^[10-11]。同时,能谱CT能够基于钙(水)的图像分析骨密度的变化^[12-13]。能谱CT的基物质定量分析技术能够克服DXA所存在的以上缺点,为骨生物力学的在体测量提供了可能。本研究应用能谱CT基物质成像技术分别与煅烧灰重密度值和骨生物力学值进行相关性分析,旨在评估能谱CT定量参数与骨脆性的相关性和价值。

1 材料与方法

1.1 实验动物

选取SPF级别雌性SD大鼠20只,由中国农业科学院兰州兽医研究所实验动物中心提供,体质量(200±20)g,动物实验场所为甘肃省骨关节疾病研究重点实验室动物房,单笼饲养,动物室温度控制在

21~25℃,相对湿度控制在50%~60%,12h昼夜交替,自由进水进食。

1.2 骨检测仪器

骨生物力学测定(电子万能试验机,AG-X 50KN型,日本岛津公司);骨密度检测仪(HOLOGIC Discovery Ci,美国);能谱CT(Discovery CT750 HD,美国GE公司);马弗炉(沈阳市工业电炉厂, SX2-4-10)。

1.3 实验方法

1.3.1 实验分组及造模 雌性SD大鼠20只,适应性饲养7d后根据随机数字表将大鼠随机分为假手术组(A组)、单纯去势组(B组),每组10只,B组进行双侧卵巢切除法制作骨质疏松大鼠模型,A组切除等量的卵巢旁边脂肪组织。术后给予青霉素肌注3d,持续喂养3个月,10%水合氯醛麻醉大鼠,能谱CT采用GSI扫描模式进行在体骨密度测量,取其腰椎骨L4,去除附着的软组织灰化,得出灰重。

1.3.2 检测指标 双能X线BMD测量:10%水合氯醛麻醉大鼠,用美国Hologic公司产DEA型BMD仪(附带小动物扫描软件),由专门技术人员对设备进行调试后并统一进行所有样本检测,最终由骨密度仪自带的小动物骨密度分析相关软件分析所获取的数据后,得出感兴趣区(Region of Interest, ROI)腰4椎体(L4椎体)测量相应面积骨密度值。能谱CT成像BMD测量:采用美国GE公司生产的Discovery CT750 HD能谱CT机选用GSI扫描模式进行扫描,扫描模式为轴向扫描,使用下列参数:机架旋转时间0.5s;80/140kVp管电压,快速切换;管电流630mAs;间距1.375:1;探测器宽度20mm;矩阵大小:512×512;重建算法为Stand,自适应统计迭代重建(Adaptive Statistical Iterative Reconstruction, ASIR)30%。扫描完成后,图像传输至GE公司AW4.6(Advantage Windows, GE Healthcare)工作站进行三维(3D)多平面图像重建(Multiplanar Reformation, MPR)。于L4椎体中部层面划定ROI(面积为1.5mm²左右,单位为mg/cm³,距离椎体边缘1mm以上,切避开血管压迹)。生物力学测定及煅烧测量BMD真实值:将L4除去其周围的软组织和椎体的上、下终板并编号,用细砂纸打磨成上

下两个面平行的圆柱体,测量出处理后椎体的体积(V)后,接着使用电子万能试验机进行腰椎压缩,量取椎体矢状径、冠状径和高,将打磨好的椎体置于压缩工作台中心位置上,以1 mm/min的实验速度对试样施加压应力,直至腰椎椎体破坏,记录载荷-位移曲线并计算出最大载荷和弹性模量,测完生物力学将其放入同样编号的坩埚中,将盛有椎体的坩埚放入马弗炉中进行煅烧,温度900 ℃,持续煅烧9 h。缓慢降温冷却,使用电子天平称重,得出的灰重(m)根据公式 $BMD=m/V$,得出每一椎体的灰重密度值,单位为g/mL,再换算成 g/cm^3 。

1.4 统计学分析

应用SPSS 23.0软件,对所有数据进行统计学描述及分析。所有计量数据用均数±标准差表示,生物力学特性分析采用方差分析;能谱CT定量参数与灰重密度值、骨生物力学值的相关分析采用Pearson相关分析。检验水准 $\alpha=0.05$ 。

2 结果

2.1 A、B两组3月DXA测量所得面积骨密度和煅烧所得灰重密度值结果分析

由图1可知,饲养3月后B组相比较于A组DXA所测BMD(面积骨密度)下降明显,表明去势组模型造模成功,灰重密度值对比进一步说明B组大鼠骨密度明显下降。

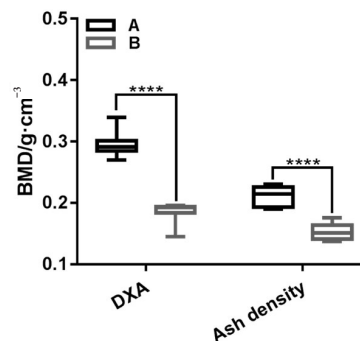


图1 A组、B组饲养3月后X线吸收法所测离体面积骨密度、灰重密度值结果分析

Fig.1 Analysis of *in vitro* BMD and ash density values measured by DXA in groups A and B after 3 months of feeding

BMD: Bone mineral density; DXA: Dual-energy X-ray absorptiometry

2.2 能谱CT不同参数与煅烧所得灰重密度值相关性分析

由图2可知,能谱CT测量所得到的BMD值均与灰重密度值呈正相关($P<0.05$),即能谱CT测量所得BMD值与灰重密度值的变化趋势一致;羟基磷灰石-水(HAP)基物质对与灰重密度值之间的决定系数 R^2 为0.7671,高于钙-水(Ca)基物质对与灰重密度值之间的决定系数($R^2=0.7096$),而铁-水(Fe)基物质对、血-水(Blood)基物质对与灰重密度值相关性不强,表明能谱CT在采用羟基磷灰石-水与灰重密度间有更好的相关性,更接近灰重密度值的变化趋势。

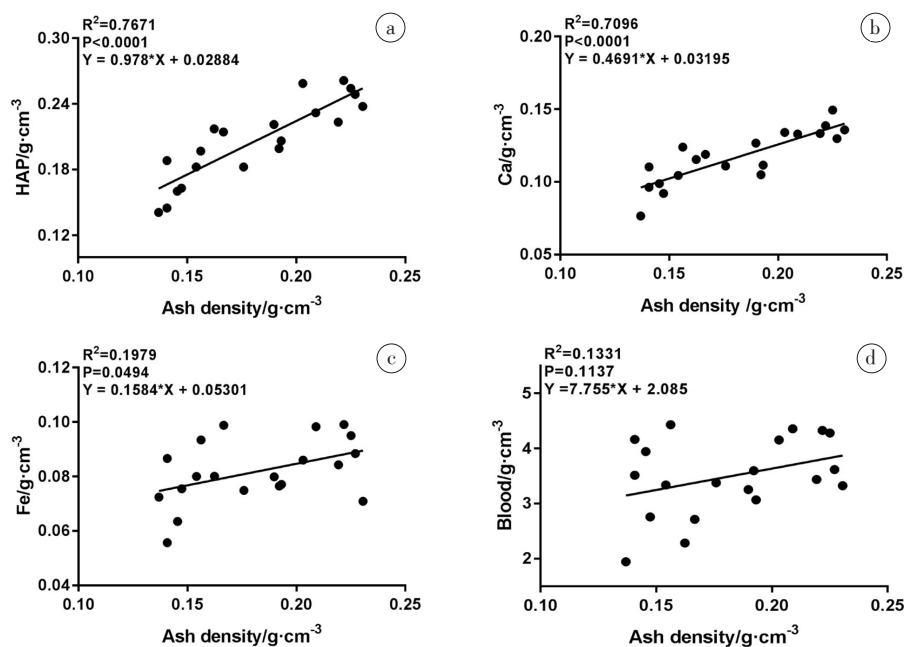


图2 能谱CT定量参数与灰重密度值的相关性分析

Fig.2 Correlation between energy spectrum CT quantitative parameters and ash density values

a: Correlation between hydroxyapatite (HAP)-water-based material pairs and ash density values; b: Correlation between calcium (Ca)-water-based material pairs and ash density values; c: Correlation between iron (Fe)-water-based material pairs and ash density values; d: Correlation between blood-water-based material pairs and ash density values

2.3 能谱CT不同定量参数与骨生物力学指标弹性模量、最大载荷的相关性分析

如图3所示,能谱CT羟基磷灰石-水基物质对与弹性模量之间的决定系数 $R^2=0.7763$,高于钙-水基物质对与弹性模量值之间的决定系数($R^2=0.7532$);而

在与最大载荷相关性方面,羟基磷灰石-水基物质对的决定系数($R^2=0.7724$)也大于钙-水基物质对($R^2=0.7107$),以上结果均表明能谱CT在采用羟基磷灰石-水基物质对与骨生物力学有很强相关性,更接近骨生物力学值的变化趋势。

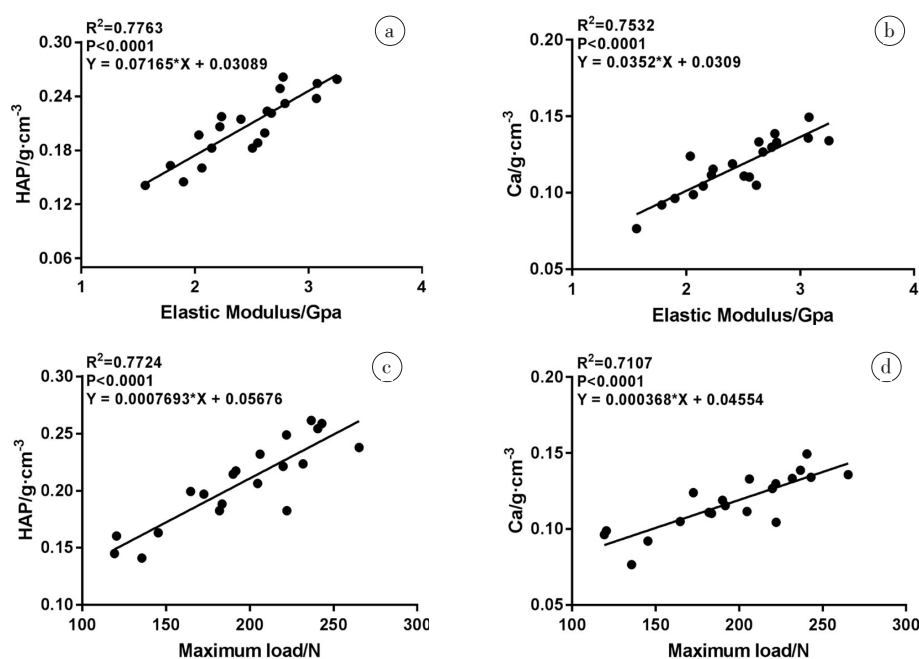


图3 能谱CT定量参数与骨生物力学指标相关性分析

Fig.3 Correlation between energy spectrum CT quantitative parameters and bone biomechanics

a: Correlation between hydroxyapatite (HAP)-water-based material pairs and elastic modulus; b: Correlation between calcium (Ca)-water-based material pairs and elastic modulus; c: Correlation between hydroxyapatite (HAP)-water-based material pairs and the maximum load; d: Correlation between calcium (Ca)-water-based material pairs and the maximum load

3 讨论

骨质疏松症是骨重建周期中骨的吸收和形成的失衡(骨吸收增加,骨形成减少),导致以骨量减少、骨的微观结构退化为特征,致使骨脆性增加以及易于发生骨折的一种全身性骨骼代谢性疾病,可分为3大类,即原发性骨质疏松症、继发性骨质疏松症、特发性骨质疏松症^[14]。目前,骨质疏松症对不同年龄段人们的生活质量有显著的影响,尤其是在绝经后妇女和年龄较大的人群中^[15-16]。骨质疏松主要表现为骨密度的下降,目前临床上有多种用于骨密度的测量方法,包括定量CT测量法、定量超声、DXA、能谱CT等,其中DXA是目前临床应用最为广泛的方法^[3, 17-18],但是DXA在测量BMD时也存在诸多局限性,例如:(1)其测量结果是区域内的二维密度,含有骨的皮质和松质,难以分别,所以早期发生于骨松质的骨钙降低难以发现;(2)DXA的测量受很多外部因素(骨折、人体软组织厚度,动脉壁钙化等)影响,导致其测量值偏离真实骨密度;(3)在老年患者出现骨

质增生等退行性改变后,其测量值往往较真实值偏大,不能及时诊断骨质疏松症。同时,DXA测量法虽然能够评价骨矿盐的含量,但是不能提供可靠的骨强度的指标^[19-20]。骨骼的强度是由骨的形状,大小和物质特性所决定的,DXA的测量不能完全解释骨折的发生。据报道,超过一半发生脆性骨折的患者BMD值低于骨质疏松诊断标准的阈值^[21]。临床骨折最终是生物力学事件,任何临床骨质的改变都跟骨生物力学性能相关。通过分析骨生物力学性能的关系,可以定量分析骨质量的生物力学效应和骨骼密度^[22]。

本研究结果显示,能谱CT不但可以进行BMD测量,也可以用于评价骨生物力学。在与灰重密度值相关性方面,能谱CT在采用羟基磷灰石-水基物质对、钙-水基物质对时与灰重密度值均存在高度相关性,表明两种参数所得BMD值与灰重密度值的变化趋势比较接近,但羟基磷灰石决定系数稍强于比钙-水基物质对。在与骨生物力学相关性方面,不管是

以弹性模量为标准还是以最大载荷为标准,羟基磷灰石-水基物质对相关性的都要强于钙-水基物质对,以上结果均表明,羟基磷灰石-水基物质对为评价骨强度的能谱CT最佳定量参数。

综上所述,能谱CT在采用羟基磷灰石-水基物质对时,测量BMD更为准确,相关性更好,同时也与骨生物力学的相关性更强,可以作为一种新的骨强度测量方法,具有很好的临床运用前景。

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