

膝关节骨性关节炎的康复治疗新进展

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【关键词】 膝骨性关节炎; 物理治疗; 间充质干细胞; 矫形器

【中图分类号】 R49; R681 【DOI】 10.3870/zgkf.2022.04.014

随着人们平均寿命的提高,骨关节炎(Osteoarthritis, OA)作为一种慢性退行性疾病在人群中的发病率越来越高,已成为全球第四大致残原因^[1],OA甚至会引起脑卒中的发病率升高^[2]。目前的治疗以对症处理为主,除了非甾体抗炎镇痛药和手术外,尚缺乏十分有效的干预手段^[3]。尤其是膝关节骨性关节炎(Knee osteoarthritis, KOA),病情常反复发作,严重时可导致关节畸形和肢体活动障碍^[4],对生活质量造成极大影响^[5, 6]。康复治疗作为KOA治疗的重要一环越来越受到关注,近几年取得了很大的发展。本文主要介绍KOA的康复评定、物理治疗、关节腔内注射、矫形器、针灸、干细胞疗法等方面的最新研究进展。

1 康复评定

评定是为了准确了解膝关节的功能,在介绍康复治疗进展前,有必要简要介绍一下评定方面的内容。根据国际上最新的推荐^[7],评估膝关节功能至少应包含以下六个方面的内容:疼痛、运动功能、生活质量、全面的自我评估以及不良反应,在条件允许时,关节结构也应在评定范围内。目前,最常用的依然是西安大略和麦克马斯特大学骨关节炎指数(the Western Ontario and McMaster Universities Osteoarthritis Index, WOMAC)以及其他膝关节功能自评量表。此外,疼痛评分、平衡和步态分析、生活质量评分等也可选用^[8]。近两年利用磁共振影像学技术评估膝关节结构及软骨状态的报道也越来越多^[9]。基于磁共振图像的人工智能影像分析和深度学习系统,可实现膝关节韧带、半月板及髌骨软骨损伤的自动识别^[10-12]。

2 物理治疗

由于药物治疗的效果有限,目前KOA的治疗方

式已逐渐从药物向非药物治疗转变^[13]。物理治疗(Physical Therapy, PT)作为非药物治疗的核心,在骨关节炎的治疗中始终起着基础性的作用。常规的PT包括运动疗法、物理因子及手法治疗^[14]。PT中关于运动疗法,是指南推荐的一线治疗方法^[15-17],其方式和强度的选择宜讲究个体化,主要目的是增强膝关节周围肌群力量、提高姿势稳定性,改善步态^[18]。其中:有氧跑步、平衡训练、游泳等均是值得推荐的训练方式,且中等强度的运动训练(如每天步行一万步)并不会加重KOA患者膝关节的损伤^[15, 17]。由于KOA患者容易发生运动后疼痛症状,采用减重下跑台训练可以减少患者的不适感,改善患者的膝关节功能并减轻疼痛,效果可持续至训练后6个月^[19]。传统运动方面,太极拳和五禽戏亦可以减轻KOA患者的膝关节症状^[20-21],且对生活质量的提升和抑郁症状的改善效果较常规运动训练更佳。各类指南中,PT运动训练是KOA患者核心的治疗手段,而在临床实践中,由于对运动的获益认识不足以及疼痛对运动的限制,部分KOA患者甚至恐惧运动。运动疗法在KOA患者中的使用严重不足,而非甾体类消炎镇痛药的使用比例越来越高^[22]。一项流行病学报道显示,KOA患者中接受PT治疗的人数还不到接受关节腔内注射糖皮质激素人数的四分之一^[23],临床实践与指南推荐之间还存在很大的差距。PT中关于物理因子治疗,高频电、超声波等物理因子对KOA的治疗均有一定作用^[24-25]。最新研究发现冲击波治疗可以减轻KOA的疼痛和功能障碍,且减轻的程度与冲击波的剂量有关,高强度冲击波效果更佳^[26]。此外,PT中的手法治疗,虽然在KOA中也经常使用,但尚缺少高质量的循证医学证据,部分指南甚至不推荐在KOA患者中采用手法治疗^[15]。Deyle^[27]在《新英格兰医学杂志》上发表了一篇探究PT训练与关节腔内注射糖皮质激素疗效对比的研究。该研究中PT训练组所采用的治疗方案包含手法物理治疗(Manual Physical Therapy, MPT)及强化训练两个部分,MPT主要进行膝关节松动术及被动活动,同时手动牵伸膝周围肌肉以减轻疼痛,手法的强度由物理治疗师掌控,待疼痛减轻后再进

基金项目: 同济医院科研基金项目(2019A20)

收稿日期: 2021-12-01

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行膝关节周围肌群的强化训练^[28]。结果显示1年后PT训练组WOMAC评分低于激素注射组,且随着时间的推移,2组差距更为明显。在步态和行走测试中PT训练组所用时间也较激素组短,该研究首次通过双盲对照试验证实了物理治疗师提供的PT训练对KOA的良好治疗效果。另外,术前PT介入是当前的研究热点,最新的研究发现术前PT对改善腰椎OA患者的行走能力及下肢力量具有明显作用^[29],这对KOA的治疗也具有较大的借鉴意义。

3 关节腔内注射治疗

对于KOA患者而言,关节腔内注射给药与口服和静脉给药相比具有生物利用度高、用药剂量低、副作用少的优点。因此,关节腔内注射是一条不容忽视的治疗途径。糖皮质激素是过去常用的关节腔内注射药物^[30-32],但研究发现使用糖皮质激素主要起短期止痛作用,长期效果不甚明显,且反复关节腔内注射糖皮质激素会导致严重的关节软骨变性,因此不推荐长期频繁使用^[33]。近年来,透明质酸钠(Hyaluronic Acid, HA)和富血小板血浆(Platelet-rich plasma, PRP)在OA中的应用越来越多。这些新关节腔内注射药物的短期和长期疗效究竟如何,效果有无差异也是科学家正在探索的焦点。为了探究关节腔内注射PRP和HA的长期疗效,Cole等^[34]对111名患者观察了1年,而Martino等^[35]共纳入192例患者随访了5年。结果显示,PRP和HA注射后均能明显改善KOA患者的疼痛及临床功能,两者在主要疗效上无显著性差异。其中Cole发现PRP和HA注射治疗的最佳疗效在24周,半年及1年期随访时,PRP组的VAS疼痛评分和膝功能评分较HA稍好。Martino在持续5年的疗效观察中发现,PRP和HA的疗效都有一定的时限,约为9~12个月,PRP组的疗效相对更长,反复注射率低于HA组。一项汇集了34项临床研究的Meta分析显示PRP治疗组12个月时的效果优于生理盐水对照组,其对疼痛的改善优于关节腔内注射糖皮质激素^[36]。另一项基于18项临床研究的荟萃分析表明:关节腔内注射PRP较HA效果更佳,其膝关节功能改善和疼痛减轻更明显,且PRP中白细胞成分多少对KOA的治疗效果有较大影响,去白细胞PRP的疗效优于富白细胞PRP^[37]。但是,由于PRP存在缺乏标准化流程、异质性大、有效成分难以明确等问题,目前部分指南对PRP治疗并未强烈推荐^[15-16]。我们需要知道,不管是PRP还是HA,都是在一段时间内改善KOA的症状,并不能治愈KOA。近两年,一些新的疾病修正治疗药物也通过关节腔内注射发挥作用,如成

纤维细胞生长因子-18以及Wnt信号通路抑制剂,部分药物即将进行Ⅲ期临床试验^[38]。关节腔内注射治疗的不良反应同样不能忽视,常见不良反应有注射部位感染、局部疼痛、关节肿胀等^[39]。

4 矫形器

膝关节力学环境的持续变化既是KOA发生的重要因素,也是KOA长期进展的结果。既往认为通过佩戴矫形器对膝关节生物力线进行矫正,理论上对控制疾病进展和缓解疼痛症状有帮助。KOA常用的矫形器大致分为膝关节免重力矫形器、楔形鞋垫以及生物力学鞋^[40]。一项回顾性研究发现使用定制的矫形鞋调控足底压力,可以显著改善患者的步态功能,对患者的膝关节功能和生活质量有益^[41]。也有学者认为穿矫形鞋虽可以矫正膝关节力线,但生物力线的校正并不一定意味着膝关节功能的改善^[42]。David等^[43]的研究发现,穿外侧楔形鞋垫可使KOA患者的疼痛评分稍下降,但仅对穿戴楔形鞋垫后膝关节内收角下降的患者有效,且两组膝关节功能改善无明显差异。临床实践中,矫形鞋对KOA的治疗作用还存在一定争议^[44]。Stephan等^[45]在《美国医学会杂志》上发表了一篇关于生物力学鞋治疗KOA患者的随机对照研究,值得一提的是该研究为达到双盲效果,对照组采用统一定制的外观与生物力学鞋完全相似的普通鞋。结果显示:生物力学鞋组的疼痛评分和WOMAC评分在24周时较对照组明显改善,而生活质量评分及止痛药服用剂量无明显差异。这一研究表明,使用生物力学矫形鞋确实可以改善患者的疼痛症状,但对患者生活的实际获益并不明确。一项汇总了15项研究的Meta分析显示穿戴外侧楔形鞋垫可以轻度改善患者的膝关节力线,但更大角度的鞋垫并未显示出更好的矫正效果^[46]。我们今后在临床工作中,矫形鞋的应用要注意精准评估和个体化使用,需对患者的膝关节力学情况进行分析并合理选择患者。同时,我们还应将矫形器与运动训练结合,达到事半功倍的效果。

5 针灸

目前对于传统针灸及电针在膝关节骨性关节炎的治疗作用,国际上尚未完全认可,相关的国际指南推荐级别较低^[15]。针灸在国内应用比较广泛,针灸对骨关节炎的治疗主要是在控制疼痛方面。关于针灸治疗KOA的临床研究结果差异较大。早期国外研究发现:在PT训练和口服止痛药的基础上联合针灸治疗可以改善KOA患者的膝功能评分,但针灸和假针刺组的效果无显著差异^[47]。也有研究发现:针灸治疗与假针

刺及对照组相比能显著改善慢性 KOA 患者的 WOM-AC 膝关节功能评分^[48]。针灸联合非甾体类镇痛药对 KOA 疗效显著^[49-50]。Hinman 等^[51]发现对于慢性膝痛患者,针灸能稍减轻 12 周时膝关节疼痛,但差别无统计学意义,效果在一年随访时消失。该研究因入选患者病情过重,随机分组方法不严谨,未采用针灸手法及“得气”概念等原因,其结果受到部分国内专家的质疑^[52]。最新一项前瞻性临床研究表明^[53]:对于 KOA 患者,手法针灸和电针灸对膝关节功能和疼痛的改善优于对照组,差别在 16 周及 26 周时最明显。关于针灸治疗的频率,每周 3 次的效果明显优于每周 1 次^[54]。此外,电针灸同样能改善 KOA 患者的疼痛和膝关节功能,且强电流(>2mA)较弱电流(<0.5mA)效果更好^[55]。关于针灸控制疼痛的机制,有研究认为与针灸预防疼痛相关脑区的皮质变薄和功能连通性降低有关^[56]。在功能磁共振检测下可以发现针灸得气时大脑-边缘系统整体信号强度降低^[57]。也有研究发现针灸可以促进脑内具有镇痛作用的化学物质(如 5-羟色胺、内啡肽等)分泌^[58]。一项汇集了 8 项研究的 Meta 分析表明^[59]:针灸与 KOA 的疼痛和功能状态有关,且包含治疗时间、频率、穴位选择、是否得气等评价指标的“高强度”针灸效果更佳。未来,对于传统针灸在 KOA 治疗中的应用,应该遵循科学的方法,规范治疗强度、时间、及取针穴位,正确地应用^[60]。鼓励有条件的单位积极开展临床研究,科学严谨的向外界展现针灸的临床效果,

6 干细胞疗法

干细胞是一类具有自身增殖和分化潜力的细胞,特别是间充质干细胞(Mesenchymal stem cells, MSCs),对于骨关节疾病的修复具有独特作用,是再生医学重要的靶细胞之一^[61]。目前 MSCs 对 KOA 的治疗多处于基础研究或小样本的临床应用阶段^[62],国内已有 5 家单位正在开展相关临床试验,澳大利亚和韩国已正式批准其临床应用。常见的 MSCs 有骨髓、脂肪及脐带血等多个来源,各种途径来源的 MSCs 的临床及药理学作用需要独立验证。Chahal 博士^[63]利用不同剂量的自体骨髓来源 MSCs 治疗了 12 例 KOA 患者,结果表明不同剂量的 MSCs 对 OA 均有治疗作用,高剂量组在某些方面的效果更加明显。Lee 等^[64]研究发现与生理盐水相比,自体脂肪来源 MSCs 可以显著改善 KOA 患者的临床症状,经磁共振影像检测显示其对膝关节软骨也有保护作用。Matas 等^[65]比较了 MSCs 单次注射与重复注射的疗效差异,结果发现重复注射脐带血来源 MSCs 的效果更佳。也有研究

提示单次注射和两次注射在 12 个月时的膝关节功能评分无显著差异^[66]。一项汇集了 18 项研究的 Meta 分析显示膝关节腔内注射 MSCs 可以改善 12 个月的膝关节功能评分及步态功能,总不良事件的发生率约为 12.7%^[67]。除 MSCs 外,还有间充质前体细胞^[68]、自体基质血管部分都可作为移植成分^[69]。总的来说:当前的多项临床研究均表明间充质干细胞对 KOA 的症状有改善作用,且疗效较 PRP 等常规方法更持久,但对干细胞的来源、培养方式、注射剂量及频次等方便尚需进一步深入研究。目前关于 MSCs 治疗 KOA 的机制还未完全明确,多数学者认为是 MSCs 旁分泌多种营养因子改善了膝关节局部的微环境,进而促进血管新生及减轻软骨变性^[70]。

7 结语与展望

KOA 的康复治疗近两年取得了日新月异的进展^[71],因篇幅有限,本文仅列举其中最具代表性的几个方面。各种治疗方法并不是孤立的,可以共同作用、相辅相成。其中,PT 训练的基础地位仍然不可动摇,但要遵循标准科学的方法。关节腔注射治疗,包括注射糖皮质激素、HA、PRP 甚至间充质干细胞等在 KOA 的疼痛控制上具有较大优势,但要了解其各自的局限性,实现最合理地使用。

需要指出的是,KOA 的治疗是一个综合的过程,包含药物、康复、心理、手术等多个方面。当前的药物治疗和康复主要作用在症状控制和改善功能方面,缺乏可直接控制疾病进展和治愈疾病的方法,这是我们未来需努力的方向,干细胞疗法在这方面具有较大潜力。

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