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International Journal of Molecular Sciences:
晚期前列腺癌的免疫治疗——隧道尽头的光?薛蔚¹ 点评

[摘要] 在很多实体瘤中免疫治疗已经成为一种标准治疗方案,然而,免疫治疗在前列腺癌中的探索仍未转化为临床实践。前列腺癌高度免疫抑制的“冷”肿瘤微环境降低了很多免疫治疗方案的疗效,包括免疫检查点抑制剂。随着对于肿瘤-免疫系统相互作用了解的深入,研发人员重新看到了未来在前列腺癌中优化免疫治疗策略的希望。本篇综述旨在提供前列腺癌免疫治疗的最新进展及展望未来的发展方向,帮忙医生更好地了解临床前和临床开发中的治疗策略。

[关键词] 免疫疗法;晚期前列腺癌;PD-L1;免疫检查点抑制剂;肿瘤微环境

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International Journal of Molecular Sciences: Immunotherapy in
advanced prostate cancer-light at the end of the tunnel?

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Abstract Immunotherapeutic treatment approaches are now an integral part of the treatment of many solid tumors. However, attempts to integrate immunotherapy into the treatment of prostate cancer have been disappointing so far. This is due to a highly immunosuppressive, "cold" tumor microenvironment. The consequence is a reduced efficacy of many established immunotherapeutic treatments such as checkpoint inhibitors. However, a growing understanding of the underlying mechanisms of tumor-immune system interactions raises hopes that immunotherapeutic strategies can be optimized in the future. The aim of this review is to provide an overview of the current status and future directions of immunotherapy development in prostate cancer, and to better understand current therapeutic strategies under preclinical and clinical development.

Key words immunotherapy; advanced prostate cancer; PD-L1; immune checkpoint inhibitors; tumor micro-environment

1 研究背景

由于对现有标准疗法耐药,晚期前列腺癌患者的预后仍然很差,迫切需要新的治疗方法。利用患者自身免疫系统对抗肿瘤的理念在过去 10 年颠覆了抗肿瘤治疗领域^[1]。该综述讨论促进前列腺癌免疫应答和耐药性的机制,总结不同的治疗方法和现有研究证据,并概述研究前景。

2 免疫疗法

2.1 PD-1/PD-L1 抑制剂

KEYNOTE-199 队列 1-3 评估了帕博利珠单抗在接受过多西他赛和新型内分泌治疗的转移性

去势难治性前列腺癌(metastatic castration-resistant prostate cancer, mCRPC)患者中的疗效,客观缓解率(overall response rate, ORR)为 3%~5%。5 例患者在数据截止时持续缓解,中位持续时间 16.8 个月^[2]。

部分前列腺癌患者表现出了显著而持久的反应,表明进行适当的生物标志物预筛选后,免疫疗法有望成为一种潜在的治疗选择^[3-4]。据报道,PD-1/PD-L1 抑制在微卫星不稳定性(microsatellite instability, MSI)较高的前列腺癌患者中疗效改善,影像学缓解率为 36%,PSA50 (PSA 下降 \geq 50%)为 54%,大多数患者达到了长期疾病控制^[5]。将同源重组修复缺陷(homologous recombination de-

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iciency, HRD)、细胞周期依赖性激酶 12 (cyclin-dependent kinase 12, CDK12) 功能缺失作为免疫治疗预筛选生物标志物的研究正在进行中 (NCT03040791、NCT03570619)。

2.2 PD-1/PD-L1 抑制剂联合雄激素受体靶向治疗

原理:雄激素受体抑制剂恩杂卢胺可以增强 IFN γ 信号,并可使肿瘤细胞对免疫介导的细胞杀伤敏感。

KEYNOTE-199 队列 4-5 评估了帕博利珠单抗联合恩杂卢胺治疗未经化疗、恩扎卢胺治疗进展的 mCRPC 患者,队列 4 (RECIST 可评估) 的 ORR 为 12%, 疾病控制率 (disease control rate, DCR) 为 51%, 中位总生存期 (overall survival, OS) 未达到; 队列 5 (骨转移为主) 的 DCR 为 51%, 中位 OS 为 19 个月。较短的中位 OS 与既往恩杂卢胺治疗 < 6 个月相关^[6]。目前,有两项 3 期临床研究正在激素敏感 (NCT04191096、KEYNOTE-991) 或去势抵抗 (NCT03834493、KEYNOTE-641) 患者中比较帕博利珠单抗联合恩杂卢胺与恩杂卢胺单药的治疗疗效,尚未公布结果。

2.3 PD-1/PD-L1 抑制剂联合化疗

原理:新的证据表明化疗的疗效不仅限于直接的细胞抑制或细胞毒作用,还可(重新)激活肿瘤靶向免疫反应^[7]。循环中 Treg 细胞增加和骨髓源性抑制细胞 (myeloid-derived suppressor cells, MD-SC) 的减少与更理想的免疫检查点抑制剂 (immune checkpoint inhibitor, ICI) 抗肿瘤疗效相关。

CheckMate 9KD 队列 B 在经新型内分泌治疗的 mCRPC 患者中评估了纳武利尤单抗联合多西他赛的疗效。ORR 为 40%, PSA50 为 46.9%, 影像学无进展生存期 (radiographic progression-free survival, rPFS) 和 OS 分别为 9.0 个月和 18.2 个月^[8-9]。初步的生物标志物分析显示,HRD 或肿瘤突变负荷 (tumor mutation burden, TMB) 与肿瘤减少或与基线 PSA 下降之间没有明确的相关性。CDK12 突变与应答或 PSA 降低无关。

纳武利尤单抗或帕博利珠单抗联合多西他赛的 3 期研究正在进行中 (NCT04100018, CheckMate7DX; NCT03834506, KEYNOTE-921)。

2.4 PD-1/PD-L1 抑制剂联合多腺苷二磷酸核糖聚合酶抑制剂 [poly (ADP-ribose) polymerase (PARP) inhibitor, PARPi]

原理:同源重组修复 (homologous recombination repair, HRR) 缺陷与前列腺癌免疫治疗应答有关。PARPi 可能增强肿瘤 DNA 损伤,从而可能诱发免疫相关突变^[10]。

CheckMate 9KD 队列 A1 和 A2 评估纳武利尤单抗联合卢卡帕利用于经新型内分泌治疗的

mCRPC 患者,队列 A1 接受过紫杉烷化疗,队列 A2 未经紫杉烷化疗。队列 A1 中,HRD 阳性患者的 ORR 为 17.2%, PSA50 为 18.2%, HRD 阴性患者似乎无获益^[11]。队列 A2 中,HRD 阳性患者的 ORR 为 25%, PSA50 为 41.9%, 同样,HRD 阴性患者的临床活性也有限^[12]。

3 期研究正在评估帕博利珠单抗联合奥拉帕利在未经 HRD 筛选的 mCRPC 患者中的疗效 (NCT03834519, KEYLINK-010)。

2.5 PD-1/PD-L1 抑制剂联合酪氨酸激酶抑制剂 (tyrosinase inhibitors, TKI)

原理:卡博替尼可抑制多种酪氨酸激酶,包括 MET、VEGF 受体和 TAM 激酶家族 (TYRO3、MER 和 AXL)^[13]。卡博替尼促进了一种免疫许可环境,可能会增强 ICI 的应答^[14-15]。

COSMIC-021 队列 6 评估了卡博替尼联合阿替利珠单抗在 mCRPC 患者中的作用^[16]。其中总人群的 ORR 为 23%, 而有内脏转移或盆腔外淋巴结肿大 (extra-pelvic lymph node, EPLN) 的患者的 ORR 为 27%, 完全缓解 (complete response, CR) 率为 2%。正在进行的 3 期 CONTACT-02 临床研究评估这一组合在可测量疾病 mCRPC 患者中的疗效 (NCT04446117)。

此外,帕博利珠单抗联合仑伐替尼用于神经内分泌前列腺癌的研究正在进行 (NCT04848337)。

2.6 PD-1/PD-L1 抑制剂联合核素

PRINCE 研究中帕博利珠单抗联合 177-Lu-PSMA-617 的结果显示,73% 的患者 PSA 下降至少 50%, 78% 的患者达到影像部分缓解^[17]。目前的临床试验正在评估免疫检查点抑制剂联合 PSMA 配体治疗的疗效 (NCT05150236)。

3 未来展望

晚期前列腺癌的免疫治疗初期并不顺利,随着对前列腺癌特异性免疫抑制环境和潜在反调节干预的认识增加,前列腺癌患者未来也将从免疫治疗中获益。多种免疫检查点抑制剂联合疗法正在进行中,相关研究结果令人期待。

4 点评

von Amsberg^[18] 在综述中从基础和临床研究两方面对前列腺癌免疫治疗发展的现状和未来方向进行了论述。由于前列腺癌具有典型的“冷”肿瘤微环境,ICI 单药治疗的探索较为艰难,而联合治疗作为肿瘤微环境“冷转热”的核心策略,已成为前列腺癌免疫治疗探索的主旋律。

KEYNOTE-199^[9] 作为代表性研究证实 ICI 单药治疗在未筛选人群中获益有限。通过对影响免疫应答的生物标志物如 TMB, 错配修复缺陷 (mismatch repair-deficient, dMMR)/MSI 等对优势人群进行筛选成为 ICI 单药治疗的策略,目前

NCCN 指南已推荐帕博利珠单抗用于 MSI-H/dMMR 或 TMB \geq 10 mut/Mb 的 mCRPC 患者^[20]。

联合治疗是加热“冷”肿瘤的核心策略。KEYNOTE-365、CheckMate 9KD、COSMIC-021 探索了以 ICI 为基础的联合治疗方案在 mCRPC 的有效性和安全性,这些前期探索显示 ICI 联合治疗具有一定的抗肿瘤活性,基于此,目前多种联合治疗已进入 III 期研究,如 KEYNOTE-921(帕博利珠单抗联合多西他赛)^[21]、KEYNOTE-641(帕博利珠单抗联合恩扎卢胺)^[22]、CheckMate 7DX(纳武利尤单抗联合多西他赛)^[23]、CONTACT-02(阿替利珠单抗联合卡博替尼)^[24]。

ICI 治疗的问世,颠覆了传统抗肿瘤治疗的理念和模式。ICI 在前列腺癌领域的早期探索历经坎坷,直到免疫联合治疗的几项研究结果公布,为晚期前列腺癌带来一道曙光。诸多 III 期研究将有望为前列腺癌免疫联合治疗提供确切证据,改变 mCRPC 的治疗模式,研究结果值得期待。

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(上接第 138 页)

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