

· 综述 ·

Research progresses of radiomics and deep learning for predicting prognosis of hepatocellular carcinoma

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[Abstract] The prognosis of hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) may be different in a great degree, and accurate predicting prognosis is helpful for carrying out individualized and precise treatment. With the developments of artificial intelligence, radiomics and deep learning (DL) were widely used, providing valuable information for diagnosis and treatment of HCC through mining higher dimensional quantitative features on medical images. The research progresses of radiomics and DL for predicting prognosis of HCC were reviewed in this article.

[Keywords] carcinoma, hepatocellular; prognosis; deep learning; radiomics

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影像组学及深度学习预测肝细胞癌预后研究进展

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[摘要] 肝细胞癌(HCC)预后差异较大, 准确预测预后有助于展开个体化精准治疗。随着人工智能的发展, 影像组学及深度学习(DL)运用日渐广泛, 可通过挖掘医学图像中的高维度肿瘤定量特征而为诊断与治疗HCC提供更多信息。本文就影像组学及DL预测HCC预后研究进展进行综述。

[关键词] 癌, 肝细胞; 预后; 深度学习; 影像组学

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肝细胞癌(hepatocellular carcinoma, HCC)是最常见的原发性肝癌^[1], 亦是全球癌症相关死亡的主要原因之一^[2]。目前主要根据HCC肿瘤负荷、患者肝功能及临床表现制定治疗方案, 包括肝切除术、射频消融(radiofrequency ablation, RFA)及TACE等^[3], 但总体预后差强人意^[4]。制定个体化、规范化综合治疗HCC方案有助于提高患者生存质量、延长生存期。利用影像组学及深度学习(deep learning, DL)方法可从CT、MRI、PET及超声等医学图像中提取定量数据用于诊断及指导治疗决策^[5]。本文就影像组学及DL预测HCC预后研究进展进行综述。

1 组织学

1.1 微血管侵犯(microvascular invasion, MVI) MVI与HCC术后复发及患者远期生存率降低密切相关。XU等^[6]联合应用基于CT图像提取的HCC MVI相关影像组学特征获得的影像组学评分(Radscore)、临床因素及影像学评分构建的预测模型预测测试集HCC MVI的受试者工作特征曲线下面积(area under the curve, AUC)为0.89。HU等^[7]报道, 基于声像图获取的Radscore与甲胎蛋白(α -fetoprotein, AFP)及肿瘤大小均可作为HCC MVI的独立预测因子。FENG等^[8]基于钆塞酸二钠(gadolinium ethoxybenzyl

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diethylenetriamine pentaacetic acid, Gd-EOB-DTPA) 增强 MRI 构建影像组学模型, 发现结合瘤内和瘤周影像组学特征模型预测 MVI 效能优于单纯瘤内影像组学模型, 原因可能与 MVI 主要发生于肿瘤边缘有关; 其他研究^[9-10]也得到相似结论, 但目前对于为获最佳预测效能所应覆盖的瘤周范围尚未达成统一认识。

1.2 预后不良基因表达 细胞角蛋白(cytokeratin, CK)19 阳性 HCC 侵袭性更高, 且更易发生耐药, 出现淋巴结转移、复发等不良预后, 患者生存率更低^[11]。CHEN 等^[12]基于术前增强 MRI 构建的 DL 影像组学模型识别外部验证集 HCC 中 CK19 的 AUC 为 0.78; 纳入可预测 CK19 表达的影像组学特征、瘤内出血和瘤周低信号等独立危险因素后建立的列线图预测无复发生存期(recurrence free survival, RFS) 的 C 指数为 0.71。

磷脂酰肌醇蛋白聚糖-3(glypican-3, GPC3) 与肿瘤进展有关, 可作为免疫治疗 HCC 靶点; GPC3 靶向单克隆抗体和 GPC3 靶向嵌合抗原受体 T 细胞可有效杀灭 GPC3 阳性 HCC 肿瘤细胞^[13]。GU 等^[14]联合 AFP 与增强 MR T1WI 影像组学特征建立的列线图可有效预测 HCC 的 GPC3 表达。CHONG 等^[15]报道, 利用临床-影像组学模型可预测直径 ≤ 5 cm HCC 的 GPC3 表达。

HCC 高表达 Ki-67 与其高侵袭性及高早期复发率有关^[16]。FAN 等^[17]于动脉期、门静脉期及肝胆期增强 MRI 中提取影像组学特征, 建立动脉期 Radscore 和血清 AFP 水平联合模型, 其预测验证集 HCC Ki-67 表达的 AUC 为 0.86。LI 等^[18]发现基于动脉期、门静脉期和肝胆期增强 MRI 的纹理分析有助于预测 HCC Ki-67 表达, 并可能为寻找 HCC 病理学标志物提供支持。

2 预测疗效及结局

影像组学及 DL 模型具有预测 HCC 预后的潜力, 借此可优化治疗方案、改善临床结局, 或可为现有风险评估标准提供增量价值。

2.1 预测治疗反应 影像学引导 TACE、RFA、经动脉放射栓塞术(transarterial radioembolization, TARE) 等可用于局部治疗 HCC、尤其是晚期 HCC; 治疗后主要基于 CT 或 MRI、根据改良实体瘤疗效评价标准(modified response evaluation criteria in solid tumors, mRECIST) 评价疗效^[19-20]。CHEN 等^[21]对来自多中心的 585 例经首次 TACE 后 HCC 患者的 CT 图像以半自动方法分割瘤内和瘤周(10 mm) ROI, 提取其影像组学特征并构建临床-影像组学模型, 该模型预测内部及

外部验证集治疗反应的 AUC 分别为 0.94 及 0.90。另一项回顾性多中心研究^[20]采用残差网络(residual network 50, ResNet50) 迁移学习方法基于中期 HCC 患者 CT 图像构建预测 TACE 治疗反应的 DL 模型, 其预测验证集完全缓解(complete response, CR)、部分缓解(partial response, PR)、疾病稳定(stable disease, SD) 及疾病进展(progression disease, PD) 的准确率达 82.8%~85.1%。数字减影血管造影(digital subtraction angiography, DSA) 可实时动态观察病变位置、为介入操作提供导航及动脉供血等信息, 亦可用于评价疗效。ZHANG 等^[22]纳入 605 例以 TACE 作为初始治疗的 HCC 患者, 通过实时自动分割 DSA 图中的肿瘤 ROI 预测 TACE 治疗反应, 其在外部验证集的 AUC 为 0.82。AUJAY 等^[19]以影像组学分析局部晚期 HCC 患者 TARE 前、后增强 MRI, 发现根据影像组学特征可预测早期治疗反应。

目前靶向治疗与免疫治疗的重要性日益凸显, 但尚缺乏可准确预测全身治疗效果的临床或分子标志物。TIAN 等^[23]基于 MRI 构建影像组学及 DL 特征联合模型, 5 折交叉验证显示其预测 HCC 程序性细胞死亡配体 1(programmed cell death ligand 1, PD-L1) 表达水平的 AUC 达 0.90。另有研究^[24-25]尝试采用影像组学预测抗程序性细胞死亡受体 1(programmed cell death protein 1, PD-1) 治疗 HCC 效果, 结果显示影像组学具有良好预测价值; 但上述研究纳入样本量均较小, 且缺乏外部验证。此外, MULÉ 等^[26]提出治疗前 HCC CT 纹理特征可用于预测患者接受索拉非尼治疗后生存率; BO 等^[27]报道影像组学机器学习模型预测不可切除 HCC 对仑伐替尼单药治疗反应具有良好表现。

2.2 预测肿瘤复发 影像组学分析对预测 HCC 经治疗后早期复发具有良好效能。GAO 等^[28]基于 MRI 影像组学特征及 DL 特征构建的联合模型可有效分层预测 HCC 切除术后早期复发风险。JI 等^[29]基于机器学习框架筛选于瘤内及瘤周增强 CT 提取的影像组学特征, 以之建立的 Cox 风险预测模型可有效预测根治性切除术后 HCC 复发风险并进行风险分级。

ZHANG 等^[30]认为多参数 MRI 影像组学模型对预测直径 ≤ 3 cm HCC RFA 后 2 年内(早期) 复发具有较高价值。LV 等^[31]基于治疗前对比增强 T1WI(contrast-enhanced T1WI, CE-T1WI) 提取并筛选影像组学特征以计算 Radscore, 以之联合肿瘤形状、表观弥散系数(apparent diffusion coefficient, ADC)、弥散

加权成像(diffusion weighted imaging, DWI)信号强度及信号强度差等临床及影像学因素构建的联合模型预测 RFA 后侵袭性节段内复发的效能及相应列线图临床净收益均较高;WEN 等^[32]基于直径 ≤ 3 cm HCC 术前或 RFA 前增强 MRI 影像组学特征及临床危险因素构建的预测模型亦得到相似结果。SHAN 等^[33]对比纳入与未纳入 CT 图像中瘤周 2 cm 区域建立的影像组学模型,发现前者预测 HCC 治疗后早期复发效能及校准度均更高。

肝移植(liver transplantation, LT)为治疗 HCC 的有效根治性方法,既往多依据肿瘤大小进行临床分配。影像组学与 DL 模型有望预测 HCC LT 后复发风险并辅助 LT 分配,将 LT 适应证扩展到肿瘤负荷更高的 HCC 患者。HE 等^[34]发现 MRI 影像组学特征可参与预测 LT 后 HCC 患者 RFS。IVANICS 等^[35]认为以 TACE 前增强 CT 构建的影像组学模型可用于预测 LT 后 PD 或复发等不良结局;NIE 等^[36]提出基于 CT 影像组学分析 HCC 瘤内异质性(intratumor heterogeneity, ITH)可预测 LT 后复发风险。

2.3 预测生存期 基于 CT、MRI 及 PET/CT 的定量影像组学分析模型可有效预测 HCC 经 TACE 后预后^[37-38]。刘颖等^[39]结合动脉期瘤周 3 mm 与静脉期瘤体 CT 影像组学特征构建联合模型,发现其预测 TACE 后 HCC 患者生存期的效能与稳定性均较好。MENG 等^[40]基于增强 CT 提取动脉期和门静脉期 HCC 瘤内及瘤周区域影像组学特征,联合瘤灶数(< 4 或 ≥ 4)构建的影像组学-临床联合模型预测测试集 TACE 后 HCC 患者总生存期(overall survival, OS)的 AUC 为 0.70,并认为 CT 影像组学特征可作为 TACE 后 HCC 患者生存期的独立预测因子。LIU 等^[41]同样认为 CT 纹理参数等 HCC 影像组学特征为其 OS 的独立预测因素。MÜLLER 等^[42]基于 CT 利用卷积神经网络自动分割并获取脾脏体积,发现其预测经 TACE 初治 HCC 患者生存率的效能高于基于二维 CT 所获脾脏大小。KIM 等^[43]基于术前增强 MRI 提取包含瘤周 3 mm 的影像组学特征,构建影像组学模型并与术后临床病理学模型比较,发现二者预测 HCC 切除术后 2 年内患者无病生存期(disease free survival, DFS)的效能相当。LI 等^[37]纳入巴塞罗那临床肝癌分期 0 及 A 期 HCC 患者,基于¹⁸F-FDG PET/CT 提取肿瘤影像组学特征,发现 5 个 PET 纹理特征、6 个 CT 纹理特征与肿瘤 MVI 相关;该研究同时发现,以影像组学特征建立

列线图,并与国际标准化比值和血清总胆红素相结合,可有效预测患者 DFS。

3 小结

影像组学特征或为 HCC 预后潜在标志物,影像组学及 DL 分析对于预测 HCC 预后具有巨大价值,包括显示遗传特征、预测治疗反应、预测早期复发及生存率等,有望改善 HCC 多学科管理、辅助优化个体化治疗。目前相关临床应用尚面临挑战,包括分割 ROI 及提取特征尚未实现自动化及标准化等,且已有研究多为单中心分析、样本量较小且缺乏外部验证等,均有待后续逐步完善。

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