



## 鳖甲煎丸通过p62/Keap1/NRF2信号通路调控 肝癌细胞铁死亡的作用机制研究\*

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**【摘要】目的** 探讨鳖甲煎丸通过p62/Keap1/NRF2通路调控肝癌细胞铁死亡的作用机制,为该方防治肝癌提供实验依据。**方法** 将肝癌Huh7细胞分为对照组、鳖甲煎丸含药血清组、Erastin(铁死亡诱导剂)组、鳖甲煎丸含药血清+Erastin组、鳖甲煎丸含药血清+Ferrostatin-1(Fer-1,铁死亡抑制剂)组。通过动物实验制备鳖甲煎丸含药血清,并通过CCK-8实验筛选最佳药物干预浓度及时间。检测细胞内铁(Fe)、还原型谷胱甘肽(GSH)、脂质过氧化物(MDA)、活性氧(ROS)的含量;Western blot检测FTH1、GPX4、xCT、SLC40A1、p62、Keap1、NRF2的表达水平,JC-1染色检测线粒体膜电位,细胞免疫荧光检测p62、Keap1表达情况。**结果** CCK-8实验表明,鳖甲煎丸高剂量(2.2 g/kg)细胞抑制率最高( $P < 0.001$ ),用高剂量鳖甲煎丸药物血清处理48 h, Huh7细胞抑制率最高,因此采用高剂量鳖甲煎丸药物血清浓度、48 h为后续实验剂量和处理时间。与对照组比较,鳖甲煎丸含药血清组、Erastin组、鳖甲煎丸含药血清+Erastin组铁含量升高,GSH含量减低,MDA、ROS水平升高,同时FTH1、GPX4、xCT、SLC40A1、p62、NRF2表达降低,Keap1表达升高,细胞中线粒体膜电位降低( $P < 0.05$ )。**结论** 鳖甲煎丸可通过抑制p62/Keap1/NRF2通路调控肝癌Huh7细胞的铁死亡,从而达到防治肝癌的目的。

**【关键词】** 鳖甲煎丸 肝癌 铁死亡 p62/Keap1/NRF2

**Biejiajian Pill Regulates Ferroptosis in Hepatocellular Carcinoma Cells via p62/Keap1/NRF2 Signaling Pathway: A Mechanism Study** CHEN Weiguang<sup>1</sup>, HE Chunyu<sup>1</sup>, WEN Bin<sup>2</sup>, SUN Haitao<sup>1</sup>, YANG Xuemei<sup>1</sup>, CHEN Weicong<sup>1</sup>, LIU Yang<sup>1</sup>, ZHONG Binglian<sup>1</sup>, HE Songqi<sup>1△</sup>. 1. School of Chinese Medicine, Southern Medical University, Guangzhou 510515, China; 2. Department of Traditional Chinese Medicine, PLA Southern Theater Air Force Hospital, Guangzhou 510030, China

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**[Abstract] Objective** To investigate the mechanism by which Biejiajian Pill (BJJP) regulates ferroptosis in hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) cells through the p62/Keap1/NRF2 pathway and to provide an experimental basis for its application in the prevention and treatment of HCC. **Methods** Huh7 HCC cells were divided into a normal control group, a BJJP drug serum group, an erastin (a ferroptosis inducer) group, a BJJP drug serum + erastin group, and BJJP drug serum + ferrostatin-1 (Fer-1) (a ferroptosis inhibitor) group. BJJP drug serum was prepared with animals treated with BJJP and CCK-8 assay was performed to determine the optimal concentration and duration of BJJP intervention. The levels of intracellular iron (Fe), reduced glutathione (GSH), lipid peroxides (MDA), and reactive oxygen species (ROS) were measured. Western blot was performed to determine the expression levels of FTH1, GPX4, xCT, SLC40A1, Keap1, p62, and NRF2. JC-1 staining was performed to measure mitochondrial membrane potential, and cell immunofluorescence was performed to determine the expression of p62 and Keap1. **Results** According to the CCK-8 assay results, the cell inhibition rate was highest when BJJP was administered at a high dose of 2.2 g/kg ( $P < 0.001$ ). Furthermore, the inhibition rate of Huh7 cells was highest when Huh7 cells were treated with high-dose BJJP drug serum for 48 h. Therefore, the serum concentration of high-dose BJJP and 48 h were selected as the treatment dose and duration for the subsequent experiment. Compared with the control group, the BJJP drug serum group, the erastin group, and the BJJP drug serum + erastin group showed increased iron content, decreased GSH content, increased MDA levels, increased ROS aggregation, decreased FTH1, GPX4, xCT, SLC40A1, p62, and NRF2 contents, increased Keap1 content, and decreased mitochondrial membrane potential ( $P < 0.05$ ). **Conclusion** BJJP regulates ferroptosis in Huh7 HCC cells by inhibiting the p62/Keap1/NRF2 pathway, demonstrating potentials as a therapeutic agent for HCC.

**[Key words]** Biejiajian Pill Hepatocellular carcinoma Ferroptosis p62/Keap1/NRF2

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肝细胞癌发病率和病死率分别位列我国恶性肿瘤第4位和第2位,其治疗方法包括手术切除、肝移植、化疗和消融等,存在着肝供体缺乏、术后恢复慢、术后易复发、靶向和免疫治疗易耐药、化疗药物毒副作用等问题<sup>[1-2]</sup>。而中医药治疗肿瘤具有毒副作用少、治疗靶点多、改善肿瘤化疗不良反应等优点,已逐步成为肿瘤治疗的补充方案<sup>[3-5]</sup>。根据临床报道,中药在控制早期肿瘤进展、减少肿瘤复发、改善肝癌晚期相关症状等方面具有良好的作用<sup>[6-8]</sup>,是肝细胞癌治疗的有效策略。

鳖甲煎丸为汉代名方,具有软坚消癥的功效,现代主要用于治疗各种癥瘕、积聚、瘰疬、乳癖等病证<sup>[9-11]</sup>。现代研究表明,鳖甲煎丸在抗肝硬化和抗肝癌方面有良好的作用<sup>[12-14]</sup>。

铁死亡是以亚铁离子和过氧化脂质增多为主要表现的死亡方式<sup>[15-16]</sup>,其实质是 $Fe^{2+}$ 积累及其引起的细胞氧化还原代谢紊乱<sup>[17]</sup>。研究发现细胞氧化还原稳态失衡与铁元素的关系密切,NRF2能调节氧化还原反应,并引起铁的聚集,进一步引发细胞铁死亡<sup>[18]</sup>。另外铁死亡作用可抑制p62/Keap1/NRF2通路从而抑制肿瘤发展<sup>[19-20]</sup>。但鳖甲煎丸能否通过调控p62/Keap1/NRF2信号通路诱导肝癌发生铁死亡有待研究。本研究以Huh7细胞作为研究对象,通过观察鳖甲煎丸对肝癌细胞增殖的影响,检测铁死亡的特征指标,深入研究鳖甲煎丸抗肝癌的作用机制。

## 1 材料与方

### 1.1 实验动物和细胞系

36只SPF级SD大鼠,8周龄,体质量(250±15)g,购于南方医大实验动物科技公司,许可证号SCXK(粤)2023-0041,本研究由南方医科大学动物医学伦理委员会批准(批号L2023188)。Huh7细胞购于南方医科大学抗病毒中心(编号BFN509006350)。

### 1.2 药物和主要试剂

鳖甲煎丸购自国药集团公司中联制药公司;Erastin、Ferrostatin-1购自广州创融生物科技有限公司;胎牛血清、高糖细胞培养基购自卡迈舒(上海)生物科技有限公司;p62、山羊抗兔IgG、GAPDH抗体购自中科瑞泰生物科技有限公司;GPX4抗体购自杭州华安生物技术有限公司;FTH1、xCT、SLC40A1、NRF2、Keap1抗体购自美国Affinity Bioscience公司;细胞裂解液购自上海吉至生化科技有限公司;BCA试剂盒、蛋白上样缓冲液、蛋白酶抑制剂购自深圳赛尔玛生物技术有限公司;PVDF膜购自广州益百顺科技有限公司;ECL曝光液购自赛默飞世尔科技

公司;蛋白分子量标记marker购自北京百普赛斯生物科技股份有限公司;CCK-8试剂盒购自广州希研科技有限公司;JC-1线粒体膜电位试剂购自广州铭恩生物科技有限公司。

### 1.3 细胞实验分组

本体外实验共设5组,分为对照组(NC组),鳖甲煎丸高剂量组(BJJP-H组,鳖甲煎丸高剂量含药血清终浓度为10%),Erastin(铁死亡诱导剂)组(Erastin终浓度为10 μmol/L),鳖甲煎丸高剂量+Erastin组(BJJP-H+Erastin组),鳖甲煎丸高剂量+Ferrostatin-1(Fer-1,铁死亡抑制剂)组(BJJP-H+Fer-1组,Fer-1终浓度为1 μmol/L),每组设置3个复孔,均置于体积分数为5%CO<sub>2</sub>、37℃细胞培养箱中培养。

### 1.4 制备含药血清

将36只大鼠分为4组,每组9只,分为空白组和鳖甲煎丸低、中、高剂量组;根据大鼠和人体的药物剂效换算比,计算出每只大鼠鳖甲煎丸用药剂量为1.1 g/kg(设为中剂量组),低剂量组和高剂量组分别为中剂量组的0.5倍和2倍,即分别为0.55 g/kg和2.2 g/kg。将鳖甲煎丸粉末配置为混悬液,每只大鼠每次以10 mL/kg给药。空白组予等量的生理盐水。每日分2次灌胃给药,给药间隔12 h,连续给药7次,末次给药前禁食不禁水12 h,给药1 h后进行麻醉后采血,将血在4℃冰箱内静置3 h,后以3 000 r/min离心15 min,再吸取上层淡黄色血清,水浴灭活后用微孔膜过滤,用4 mL离心管分装后做好组别记号冷藏备用。

### 1.5 CCK-8检测细胞抑制率

取处于生长情况良好的Huh7细胞,消化重悬后,以4 000个/孔的浓度接种至孔板;配制含鳖甲煎丸低剂量、中剂量、高剂量浓度含药血清的完全培养液,待细胞贴壁后更换,不同浓度各设置5个复孔,继续培育24 h、48 h、72 h后,每孔加入10 μL的CCK-8检测试剂,孵育0.5~1 h后在450 nm波长下测定各组吸光度(A)。按照 $(A_{\text{药物组}} - A_{\text{对照组}}) / A_{\text{对照组}} \times 100\%$ 计算出各组细胞增殖抑制率。

### 1.6 试剂盒检测细胞铁含量、谷胱甘肽(GSH)含量及脂质过氧化物(MDA)水平

收集细胞并加入相应提取试剂研磨破碎,离心后取上清,根据说明书配置空白、标准、待测组反应体系,加入样本并充分反应。分别在波长562 nm处读取吸光度 $A_{562}$ ,计算各组的铁含量;波长405 nm处读取吸光度 $A_{405}$ ,计算各组GSH的含量;测定532 nm和600 nm处的吸光度,记为 $A_{532}$ 和 $A_{600}$ ,MDA水平 $\Delta A = A_{532} - A_{600}$ 。

### 1.7 活性氧(ROS)荧光法测定细胞内ROS

DCFH-DA探针加入培养液稀释至终浓度10 μmol/L,

细胞继续培养45 min, DAPI染色, 荧光显微镜观察、摄像, 用Image J分析各组的平均荧光强度, 得出ROS水平。

### 1.8 JC-1检测肝癌细胞线粒体膜电位

JC-1荧光探针加入培养液稀释至终浓度5  $\mu\text{mol/L}$ , 细胞继续培养15 min, 荧光显微镜观察、摄像, 用Image J分析计算各组的红/绿荧光强度, 用红/绿荧光强度的比例代表线粒体膜电位的变化。

### 1.9 Western blot法检测铁死亡和p62/Keap1/NRF2信号通路蛋白的表达

收集细胞, PBS缓冲液清洗, 加入RIPA蛋白裂解液裂解15 min后离心吸取上清液。蛋白浓度测定后, 将上样缓冲液与样品混匀后于98  $^{\circ}\text{C}$ 的金属浴中变性。上样后, 以80 V、40 min, 130 V、50 min为电泳条件电泳。电泳结束后, 以300 mA、100 min转膜条件为进行转膜。转膜完成后进行封闭, 一抗(稀释比例1:1000)孵育过夜。清洗条带, 二抗孵育, 再次清洗条带, ECL试剂体系孵育后曝光成像。分析条带, 以目标条带与内参条带GAPDH光密度值的比值作为目标蛋白的相对表达量。

### 1.10 细胞免疫荧光检测p62、Keap1的表达

将生长状态良好的Huh7肝癌细胞以 $10^4$ 个/孔接种到已经消毒好的细胞玻片上, 待细胞生长状态良好后每组加入对应药物继续培养。48 h后去除细胞培养基后进行常规固定、破膜、封闭、孵育抗体、染核封片, 最后观察、拍照, 用Image J分析各组的平均荧光强度, 得出p62和Keap1蛋白表达水平。

### 1.11 统计学方法

实验数据绘图与数据分析采用Graph Pad Prism 9.2统计分析软件处理, 结果以 $\bar{x} \pm s$ 表示。用单因素方差分析方法分析组间差异, 用Tukey多重比较法进行两两比较分析,  $P < 0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。

## 2 结果

### 2.1 CCK-8实验筛选鳖甲煎丸最佳药物干预浓度及时间

如表1所示, 在作用24 h时, 与NC组相比, BJJP-L、BJJP-M、BJJP-H组细胞增殖抑制率升高( $P < 0.001$ )且随鳖甲煎丸药物血清浓度增大而升高, 在作用48 h时, 与NC组相比, BJJP-L、BJJP-M、BJJP-H组细胞增殖抑制率升高( $P < 0.001$ )且随鳖甲煎丸药物血清浓度增大而升高, 在作用72 h时, 与NC组相比, BJJP-L、BJJP-M、BJJP-H组细胞增殖抑制率升高( $P < 0.001$ )而不随鳖甲煎丸药物血清浓度增大而升高, 表明用高剂量鳖甲煎丸药物血清处理48 h, Huh7细胞增殖抑制率最高, 因此采用高剂量鳖甲煎丸药物血清浓度、48 h为后续实验剂量和处理时间。

表1 鳖甲煎丸不同剂量不同时间处理Huh7细胞的增殖抑制率( $\bar{x} \pm s$ ,  $n=6$ )

Table 1 Inhibition rate of Huh7 cells treated with BJJP at different doses and duration ( $\bar{x} \pm s$ ,  $n=6$ )

Group	Dosage/(g/kg)	24 h/%	48 h/%	72 h/%
NC	0	0.00 $\pm$ 9.30	0.00 $\pm$ 6.47	0.00 $\pm$ 4.15
BJJP-L	0.55	25.99 $\pm$ 3.56 <sup>***</sup>	33.37 $\pm$ 4.80 <sup>***</sup>	64.47 $\pm$ 6.42 <sup>***</sup>
BJJP-M	1.1	37.56 $\pm$ 4.03 <sup>***</sup>	46.19 $\pm$ 3.87 <sup>***</sup>	62.57 $\pm$ 3.72 <sup>***</sup>
BJJP-H	2.2	43.52 $\pm$ 2.91 <sup>***</sup>	57.28 $\pm$ 3.82 <sup>***</sup>	63.25 $\pm$ 6.60 <sup>***</sup>

NC: normal control; BJJP: Biejiajian Pill; BJJP-L: low-dose intervention of BJJP; BJJP-M: moderate-dose intervention of BJJP; BJJP-H: high-dose intervention of BJJP. <sup>\*\*\*</sup>  $P < 0.001$ , vs. NC.

### 2.2 鳖甲煎丸对肝癌细胞中铁死亡特征细胞因子Fe、MDA、GSH含量的影响

与NC组比较, BJJP-H组、Erastin组、BJJP-H+Erastin组Fe、MDA含量增高, GSH含量降低, 差异有统计学意义( $P < 0.001$ ), BJJP-H+Erastin组Fe、MDA和GSH含量差异无统计学意义; 与Erastin组比较, BJJP-H+Erastin组Fe、MDA含量增高, GSH含量降低, 差异有统计学意义( $P < 0.05$ ,  $P < 0.001$ ); 与BJJP-H组比较, BJJP-H+Erastin组Fe、MDA含量降低, GSH含量增高, 差异有统计学意义( $P < 0.001$ )(表2)。

表2 鳖甲煎丸对肝癌细胞中铁死亡特征细胞因子含量的影响( $\bar{x} \pm s$ ,  $n=6$ )

Table 2 The effect of BJJP on the content of characteristic cytokines of ferroptosis in HCC ( $\bar{x} \pm s$ ,  $n=6$ )

Group	Fe/ $(\mu\text{mol/g protein})$	MDA/(nmol/mg protein)	GSH/ $(\mu\text{mol/g protein})$
NC	315.89 $\pm$ 41.49	4.40 $\pm$ 0.72	83.74 $\pm$ 3.03
BJJP-H	918.54 $\pm$ 88.71 <sup>***</sup>	11.37 $\pm$ 0.35 <sup>***</sup>	55.88 $\pm$ 2.86 <sup>***</sup>
Erastin	1133.98 $\pm$ 88.89 <sup>***</sup>	12.20 $\pm$ 0.85 <sup>***</sup>	50.55 $\pm$ 2.50 <sup>***</sup>
BJJP-H + Erastin	1439.68 $\pm$ 249.33 <sup>***, #</sup>	17.42 $\pm$ 0.72 <sup>***, ###</sup>	26.78 $\pm$ 1.44 <sup>***, ###</sup>
BJJP-H + Fer-1	397.04 $\pm$ 152.22 <sup>△△△</sup>	5.04 $\pm$ 1.14 <sup>△△△</sup>	84.76 $\pm$ 8.72 <sup>△△△</sup>

Fer-1: ferrostatin-1; the other abbreviations are explained in the note to Tab 1. <sup>\*\*\*</sup>  $P < 0.001$ , vs. NC; <sup>#</sup>  $P < 0.05$ , vs. Erastin; <sup>###</sup>  $P < 0.001$ , vs. Erastin; <sup>△△△</sup>  $P < 0.001$ , vs. BJJP-H.

### 2.3 鳖甲煎丸对肝癌细胞中铁死亡特征细胞因子ROS含量的影响

与NC组比较, BJJP-H组、Erastin组、BJJP-H+Erastin组、BJJP-H+Erastin组ROS含量升高, 差异有统计学意义( $P < 0.001$ ); 与Erastin组比较, BJJP-H+Erastin组ROS含量升高, 差异有统计学意义( $P < 0.05$ ); 与BJJP-H组比较, BJJP-H+Erastin组ROS含量降低, 差异有统计学意义( $P < 0.05$ )(图1)。

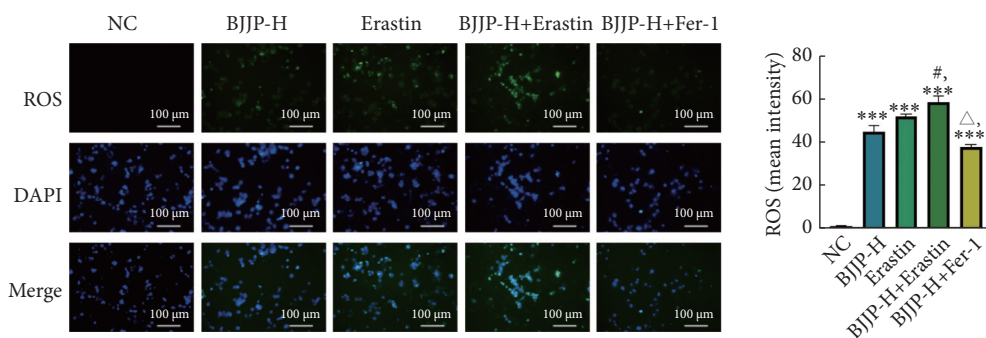


图 1 鳖甲煎丸对Huh7细胞内活性氧含量的影响 ( $n=3$ )

Fig 1 The effect of BJJP on the intracellular reactive oxygen species content of Huh7 cells ( $n=3$ )

ROS: reactive oxygen species; the other abbreviations are explained the note to Tab 1 and 2. \*\*\*  $P < 0.001$ , vs. NC; #  $P < 0.05$ , vs. Erastin; Δ  $P < 0.05$ , vs. BJJP-H.

#### 2.4 鳖甲煎丸对肝癌细胞线粒体膜电位的影响

与NC组比较, BJJP-H组、Erastin组、BJJP-H+Erastin组的红/绿荧光强度降低, 差异有统计学意义 ( $P < 0.001$ ); 与BJJP-H组比较, BJJP-H+Fer-1组红/绿荧光强度升高, 差异有统计学意义 ( $P < 0.001$ ) (图2)。

#### 2.5 鳖甲煎丸对Huh7细胞铁死亡标志蛋白表达的影响

与NC组比较, BJJP-H组、Erastin组、BJJP-H+Erastin组SLC40A1、xCT、GPX4、FTH1蛋白表达降低, 差异有统计学意义 ( $P < 0.05$ ), BJJP-H+Fer-1组蛋白含量无明显差异 ( $P > 0.05$ ); 与Erastin组比较, BJJP-H+Erastin组FTH1、GPX4、xCT蛋白表达降低, 差异有统计学意义 ( $P < 0.05$ ); 与BJJP-H组比较, BJJP-H+Fer-1组xCT、GPX4、FTH1蛋白

表达增高, 差异有统计学意义 ( $P < 0.05$ ) (图3)。

#### 2.6 鳖甲煎丸对Huh7细胞p62/Keap1/NRF2通路蛋白水平的影响

与NC组比较, BJJP-H组、Erastin组、BJJP-H+Erastin组NRF2 [BJJP-H ( $0.57 \pm 0.03$ ) vs. NC ( $0.72 \pm 0.03$ ),  $P < 0.01$ ], p62 [BJJP-H ( $0.62 \pm 0.02$ ) vs. NC ( $0.77 \pm 0.03$ ),  $P < 0.05$ ] 降低, Keap1 [BJJP-H ( $0.85 \pm 0.08$ ) vs. NC ( $0.60 \pm 0.02$ ),  $P < 0.05$ ] 含量升高, 差异有统计学意义, BJJP-H+Fer-1组蛋白含量差异无统计学意义; 与Erastin组比较, BJJP-H+Erastin组NRF2减少, 差异有统计学意义 ( $P < 0.05$ ); 与BJJP-H组比较, BJJP-H+Fer-1组NRF2、p62升高, Keap1含量降低, 差异有统计学意义 ( $P < 0.05$ ) (图4)。

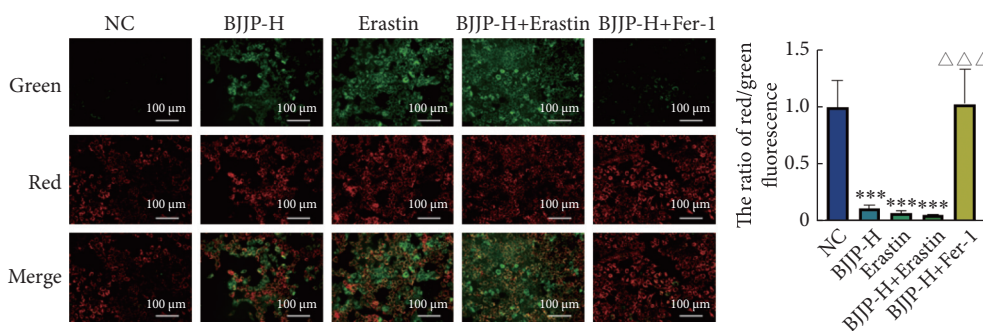


图 2 鳖甲煎丸对Huh7线粒体膜电位的影响 ( $n=3$ )

Fig 2 The effect of BJJP on the mitochondrial membrane potential of Huh7 cells ( $n=3$ )

The abbreviations are explained the note to Tab 1 and 2. \*\*\*  $P < 0.001$ , vs. NC; ΔΔΔ  $P < 0.001$ , vs. BJJP-H.

### 3 讨论

靶向联合治疗是目前临床肝癌治疗的一线推荐方案之一, 但部分患者因全身情况差、肝功能异常、肿瘤负荷重等多种原因, 不适合或无法耐受现有靶向治疗、免疫治疗、化疗等治疗方法<sup>[21-23]</sup>。中医针对不同期别的患者身体状况进行个体化用药, 采用益气健脾、解毒化痰, 软坚散结等法, 增强机体免疫功能以抑制癌细胞生长, 在稳定病

情、延长生存期方面有一定优势。

鳖甲煎丸出自《金匱要略》, 有攻补兼施、活血解毒、消结化痰之效, 可以改善肝脏功能, 抑制肿瘤生长, 能够有效地防治肝纤维化、肝硬化及肝癌, 并改善患者的健康状况, 在临床上常用于治疗肝癌、肝硬化等疾病。

铁死亡是一种以细胞铁代谢与过氧化物代谢紊乱为特征的细胞死亡方式, 脂质过氧化引起细胞膜的脂质出现损伤而致细胞死亡, 细胞不稳定铁的变化影响细胞

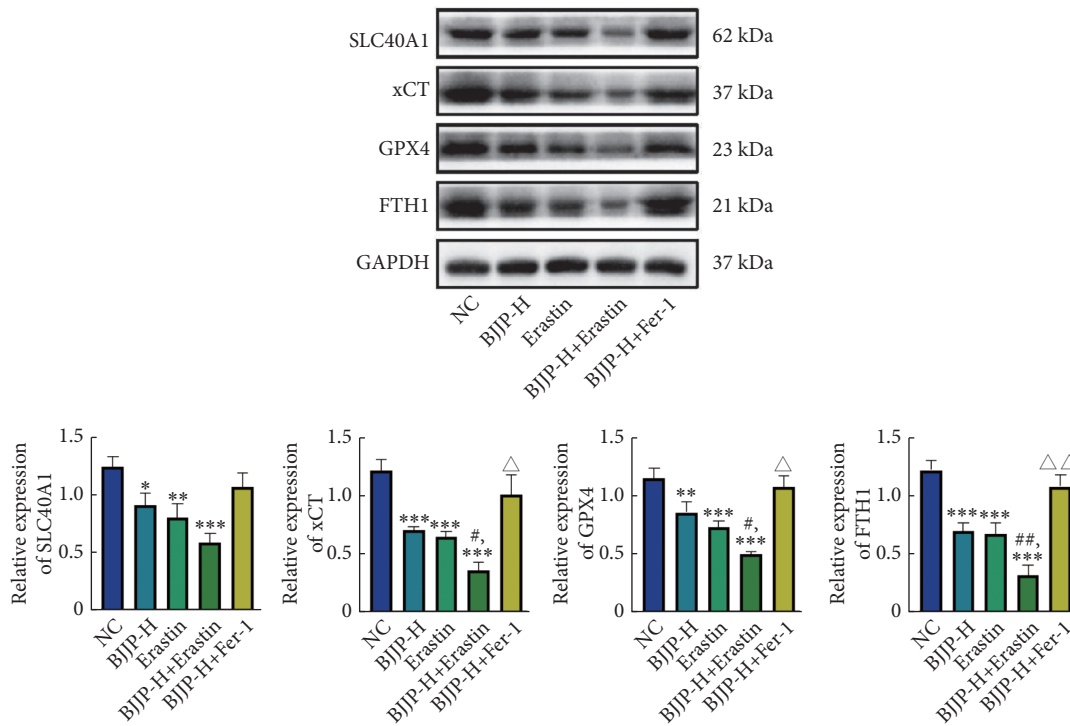


图3 鳖甲煎丸对Huh7细胞铁死亡蛋白表达的影响 ( $n=3$ )

Fig 3 The effect of BJJP on the expression of ferroptosis proteins in Huh7 cells ( $n=3$ )

\*  $P < 0.05$ , \*\*  $P < 0.01$ , \*\*\*  $P < 0.001$ , vs. NC; #  $P < 0.05$ , ##  $P < 0.01$ , vs. Erastin; △  $P < 0.05$ , △△  $P < 0.01$ , vs. BJJP-H.

对铁死亡的敏感性<sup>[24-25]</sup>。促进或诱导癌细胞发生铁死亡,可能是一种有效的治疗策略。正常情况下血液中的三价铁通过铁传递蛋白(transferrin, Tf)进入细胞质铁池中。由于胞内铁池中的二价铁具有不稳定性,与细胞中的过氧化氢发生反应产生羟基自由基,羟基自由基可与细胞膜磷脂发生反应,产生大量过氧化脂质,导致细胞死亡(铁死亡),其主要表现形式为铁离子沉积、氧化与抗氧化作用失衡、线粒体膜电位降低、细胞膜过氧化损伤等,最终导致细胞死亡<sup>[26-28]</sup>。有研究证明,SLC40A1介导的铁输出会抑制铁死亡,而铁蛋白重链(FTH1)降解下调可以导致铁过载促进铁死亡<sup>[29-31]</sup>。Erastin是一种铁死亡诱导剂,能够抑制电压依赖阴离子通道,加速氧化过程,促进内源ROS积累和铁蓄积<sup>[32]</sup>;而Fer-1作为一种铁死亡抑制剂和抗氧化剂,可通过还原机制防止铁蓄积,从而抑制细胞死亡的发生<sup>[33]</sup>。本研究发现,用鳖甲煎丸药物血清处理肝癌细胞后,细胞抑制率升高,铁含量升高,MDA、ROS水平升高,线粒体膜电势减弱,SLC40A1、FTH1蛋白表达下降,表明鳖甲煎丸可诱导肝癌细胞发生铁死亡;在加入Erastin后,肝癌细胞中铁含量显著增加,MDA及ROS水平上升,线粒体膜电势减弱,表明Erastin有效地促进了铁死亡的发生;当使用Fer-1进行干预时,上述效应被明显逆转,细胞内

的GSH水平恢复,铁含量减少,MDA和ROS水平下降,线粒体功能得到改善,这说明Fer-1不仅能够有效抑制Erastin引起的铁死亡,还能通过增强细胞抗氧化能力来保护细胞免受氧化应激损伤。

GSH是机体重要的抗氧化剂,减少GSH含量会促进铁死亡的发生。Xc-系统由xCT/SLC7A11的异二聚体和SLC3A2(4F2hc/CD98)组成,对GSH合成至关重要<sup>[34]</sup>。细胞中谷胱甘肽过氧化物酶4(GPX4),将GSH转化为氧化谷胱甘肽,从而通过清除过氧化脂质使细胞免受铁沉积<sup>[35]</sup>。而涉及这个过程的基因(包括GPX4)的调节在很大程度上受到NRF2的控制,这是防止铁死亡的关键防御措施<sup>[36]</sup>。在正常条件下,p62和NRF2蛋白竞争性地与Keap1蛋白结合,从而抑制NRF2在蛋白酶体降解。在氧化应激条件下,p62与Keap1分开,NRF2降解增加<sup>[37]</sup>。本实验中,鳖甲煎丸药物血清处理肝癌细胞后,xCT、GPX4表达水平降低,细胞GSH表达水平降低,p62、NRF2表达下降,Keap1表达上调;鳖甲煎丸药物血清与Erastin共同处理肝癌细胞与单用Erastin处理肝癌细胞相比,GSH表达水平降低,xCT、GPX4、NRF2表达水平降低;鳖甲煎丸药物血清与Fer-1共同处理肝癌细胞与单用鳖甲煎丸药物血清相比,GSH表达水平升高,Keap1表达下降,NRF2、p62表达增加;表明鳖甲煎丸诱导细胞发生铁死亡后,细胞处于氧化

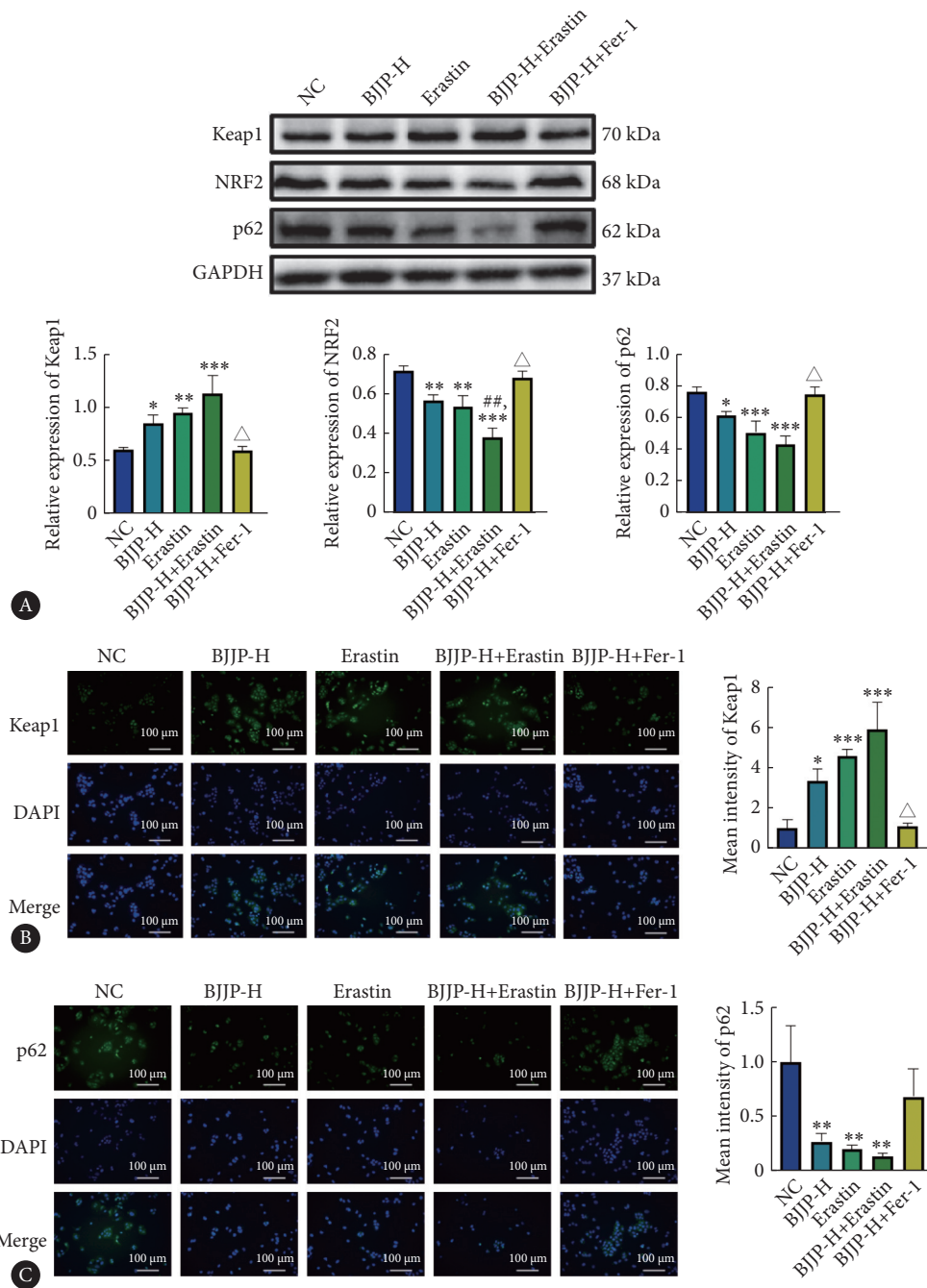


图 4 鳖甲煎丸对Huh7细胞发生铁死亡p62/Keap1/NRF2信号通路蛋白表达的影响 (n=3)

Fig 4 Effect of BJJP on the expression of p62/Keap1/NRF2 signaling pathway proteins in Huh7 cells undergoing ferroptosis (n = 3)

A, Western blot images of p62/Keap1/NRF2 signaling pathway proteins and the relative protein expression; B, immunofluorescence and relative expression level statistics of Keap1; C, immunofluorescence and relative expression level statistics of p62. \* P < 0.05, \*\* P < 0.01, \*\*\* P < 0.001, vs. NC; <sup>△</sup> P < 0.05, vs. BJJP-H.

应激状态,在此过程中p62/Keap1/NRF2信号通路受到抑制,鳖甲煎丸对Erastin诱导铁死亡产生氧化应激有协同作用, Fer-1可逆转鳖甲煎丸诱导铁死亡造成的氧化应激。

综上所述,鳖甲煎丸可能是通过抑制肝癌细胞的p62/Keap1/NRF2信号通路调节铁代谢实现抗肝癌作用, 这为探讨鳖甲煎丸的疗效机理和药物作用靶点提供理论基础, 为其临床应用提供更加科学合理的实验依据。本

研究未检测p62/Keap1/NRF2信号通路上下游分子表达情况, 鳖甲煎丸调控肝癌细胞铁死亡的相关靶点和作用机理有待进一步探究。

\* \* \*

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梅和陈伟聪负责正式分析和软件, 钟冰莲负责研究方法和验证, 贺松其负责经费获取、研究项目管理、提供资源和审读与编辑写作。所有作者已经同意将文章提交给本刊, 且对将要发表的本进行最终定稿, 并同意对工作的所有方面负责。

**Author Contribution** CHEN Weiguang is responsible for conceptualization, methodology, and writing--original draft. HE Chunyu and LIU Yang are responsible for validation and visualization. WEN Bin and SUN Haitao are responsible for data curation and supervision. YANG Xuemei and CHEN Weicong are responsible for formal analysis and software. ZHONG Binglian is responsible for methodology and validation. HE Songqi is responsible for funding acquisition, project administration, resources, and writing--review and editing. All authors have agreed to submit the article to this journal, finally determine the version to be released, and agree to take responsibility for various strands of the work.

**利益冲突** 所有作者均声明不存在利益冲突

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