



# 高迁移率族蛋白B1通过调节5-羟色胺受体7信号通路介导小鼠抑郁样行为的作用及机制研究\*

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**【摘要】** 目的 探究高迁移率族蛋白B1(high mobility group box 1 protein, HMGB1)与5-羟色胺受体7(5-hydroxytryptamine receptor 7, 5-HT7R)对小鼠抑郁样行为的调控作用及潜在机制。方法 将5-HT7R敲除(5-HT7R<sup>-/-</sup>)小鼠与同窝野生型(WT)小鼠分为以下4组: WT/空白病毒(AAV-Scramble)、5-HT7R<sup>-/-</sup>/AAV-Scramble、WT/HMGB1过表达病毒(AAV-HMGB1)和5-HT7R<sup>-/-</sup>/AAV-HMGB1组,对AAV-Scramble组与AAV-HMGB1组小鼠分别进行空白病毒与AAV-HMGB1海马区注射。3周后通过抑郁样行为学评价小鼠的抑郁状态,利用免疫荧光染色检测小鼠海马区的神经元损伤,使用商业试剂盒测定小鼠海马区还原性谷胱甘肽与氧化型谷胱甘肽比值(GSH/GSSG)、Fe<sup>2+</sup>与丙二醛(MDA)的水平以及超氧化物歧化酶(SOD)的活性。此外,通过Western blot和ELISA检测小鼠海马区5-HT7R/环磷酸腺苷(cAMP)/蛋白激酶A(PKA)与核因子E2相关因子2(Nrf2)/胱氨酸-谷氨酸交换体(xCT)/谷胱甘肽过氧化物酶4(GPX4)信号通路水平,采用免疫荧光双染检测小鼠海马区M2型小胶质细胞铁死亡。最后,利用qRT-PCR检测小鼠海马区促炎因子[白细胞介素(IL)-1 $\beta$ 、肿瘤坏死因子- $\alpha$ (TNF- $\alpha$ )]与抗炎因子[IL-10、精氨酸酶-1(Arg-1)]的mRNA水平。结果 与AAV-Scramble组相比,海马区HMGB1过表达诱导小鼠抑郁样行为与神经元损伤( $P<0.01$ ),而5-HT7R敲除减轻上述病理表型( $P<0.01$ )。与AAV-Scramble组相比, HMGB1过表达降低小鼠海马区GSH/GSSG比值与SOD活性(均 $P<0.01$ ),同时上调Fe<sup>2+</sup>与MDA水平(均 $P<0.01$ ),而5-HT7R敲除改善上述铁死亡相关指标( $P<0.01$ )。与AAV-Scramble组相比, HMGB1过表达上调小鼠海马区5-HT7R表达( $P<0.01$ ),同时下调cAMP/PKA和Nrf2/xCT/GPX4信号通路( $P<0.01$ ),而5-HT7R敲除改善上述信号通路蛋白的降低( $P<0.01$ )。与AAV-Scramble组相比, HMGB1过表达上调小鼠海马区小胶质细胞上5-HT7R与铁蛋白重链(FTH)的表达( $P<0.01$ ),下调Nrf2的表达( $P<0.01$ ),同时诱导FTH与CD206的共定位( $P<0.01$ );而5-HT7R敲除逆转上述小胶质细胞上FTH与Nrf2的表达变化( $P<0.01$ ),同时降低FTH与CD206的共定位( $P<0.01$ )。此外, HMGB1过表达诱导小鼠海马区小胶质细胞极化为M1型与M2型( $P<0.01$ ),上调促炎因子(IL-1 $\beta$ 、TNF- $\alpha$ )与抗炎因子(IL-10、Arg-1)mRNA水平( $P<0.01$ ),而5-HT7R敲除减轻上述小胶质细胞M1型极化以及降低上述促炎因子的mRNA水平( $P<0.01$ ),同时促进小胶质细胞M2型极化以及上调上述抗炎因子的mRNA水平( $P<0.01$ )。结论 HMGB1通过激活5-HT7R,下调cAMP/PKA/AKT/Nrf2/GPX4信号通路,进而介导M2型小胶质细胞铁死亡,最终促进小鼠抑郁样行为。

**【关键词】** 高迁移率族蛋白1 5-羟色胺受体7 铁死亡 抑郁症

## Role and Mechanism of High Mobility Group Box 1 in Mediating Depression-Like Behaviors in Mice via Regulation of the 5-Hydroxytryptamine Receptor 7 Signaling Pathway

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**【Abstract】 Objective** To investigate the regulatory effects and underlying mechanisms of high mobility group box 1 (HMGB1) and 5-hydroxytryptamine receptor 7 (5-HT7R) on depressive-like behaviors in mice. **Methods** 5-HT7R knockout (5-HT7R<sup>-/-</sup>) mice and their wild-type (WT) littermates were assigned to 4 groups, including the WT/control virus (AAV-Scramble), 5-HT7R<sup>-/-</sup>/AAV-Scramble, WT/HMGB1 overexpression virus (AAV-HMGB1), and 5-HT7R<sup>-/-</sup>/AAV-HMGB1 groups. Mice in the AAV-Scramble and AAV-HMGB1 groups received hippocampal injections of control virus and AAV-HMGB1, respectively. Three weeks later, the depression state of the mice were assessed with depressive behavior tests, the neuronal damage in the hippocampus was evaluated using immunofluorescence staining,

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and the ratio of reduced glutathione to oxidized glutathione (GSH/GSSG), the levels of  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and malondialdehyde (MDA), and superoxide dismutase (SOD) activity in the hippocampus were measured using commercial kits. Additionally, Western blot and ELISA were used to determine the levels of the 5-HT7R/cyclic adenosine monophosphate (cAMP)/protein kinase A (PKA) signaling pathway and the nuclear factor erythroid 2-related factor 2 (Nrf2)/cystine-glutamate exchanger (xCT)/glutathione peroxidase 4 (GPX4) signaling pathway in the hippocampus. Immunofluorescence double staining was performed to assess M2 microglial ferroptosis in the hippocampus. Finally, the mRNA levels of pro-inflammatory cytokines, interleukin (IL)- $1\beta$  and tumor necrosis factor- $\alpha$  (TNF- $\alpha$ ), and anti-inflammatory cytokines, IL-10 and arginase-1 (Arg-1), in the hippocampus was measuring using qRT-PCR. **Results** Compared with the AAV-Scramble group, hippocampal HMGB1 overexpression induced depressive-like behaviors and neuronal damage ( $P < 0.01$ ), while 5-HT7R knockout alleviated these pathological phenotypes ( $P < 0.01$ ). Compared with the AAV-Scramble group, HMGB1 overexpression reduced the GSH/GSSG ratio and SOD activity (both  $P < 0.01$ ) and increased  $\text{Fe}^{2+}$  and MDA levels (both  $P < 0.01$ ) in the hippocampus, whereas 5-HT7R knockout improved these ferroptosis-related indicators ( $P < 0.01$ ). Compared with the AAV-Scramble group, HMGB1 overexpression upregulated 5-HT7R expression ( $P < 0.01$ ) and downregulated the cAMP/PKA and Nrf2/xCT/GPX4 signaling pathways ( $P < 0.01$ ) in the hippocampus, whereas 5-HT7R knockout ameliorated the reduction in these signaling pathways ( $P < 0.01$ ). Compared with the AAV-Scramble group, HMGB1 overexpression upregulated the expression of 5-HT7R and ferritin heavy chain (FTH) in microglia ( $P < 0.01$ ), downregulated Nrf2 expression ( $P < 0.01$ ), and induced colocalization of FTH and CD206 ( $P < 0.01$ ). 5-HT7R knockout reversed the changes in FTH and Nrf2 expression in microglia ( $P < 0.01$ ) and reduced the colocalization of FTH and CD206 ( $P < 0.01$ ). Furthermore, HMGB1 overexpression promoted the polarization of microglia to both the M1 and M2 types ( $P < 0.01$ ) and upregulated the mRNA levels of pro-inflammatory (IL- $1\beta$  and TNF- $\alpha$ ) and anti-inflammatory (IL-10 and Arg-1) cytokines ( $P < 0.01$ ), whereas 5-HT7R knockout attenuated microglial M1-type polarization and reduced the mRNA levels of the aforementioned pro-inflammatory cytokine ( $P < 0.01$ ) while promoting microglial M2-type polarization and increasing the mRNA levels of the aforementioned anti-inflammatory cytokines ( $P < 0.01$ ). **Conclusion** HMGB1 activates 5-HT7R and downregulates the cAMP/PKA/AKT/Nrf2/GPX4 signaling pathways, thereby mediating M2 microglial ferroptosis and neuroinflammation, ultimately promoting depressive-like behaviors in mice.

**[Key words]** High mobility group box 1 5-Hydroxytryptamine receptor 7 Ferroptosis Depression

抑郁症的病理机制复杂,涉及小胶质细胞极化<sup>[1]</sup>。在抑郁症模型中,静息小胶质细胞可极化为促炎的M1型和抗炎的M2型<sup>[2-4]</sup>。铁死亡是一种铁依赖性的程序性细胞死亡,最新的研究发现,M2型小胶质细胞对铁死亡高度敏感,而M1型对其耐受<sup>[5-6]</sup>。M2型小胶质细胞铁死亡可导致M1/M2比例失衡,加重神经炎症,但其在抑郁症中的作用尚不清楚。

高迁移率族蛋白B1 (high mobility group box 1 protein, HMGB1)是疾病状态下释放的损伤相关分子模式(damage associated molecular patterns, DAMP),可激活免疫细胞上模式识别受体(pattern recognition receptors, PRRs),促进炎症反应,并在抑郁症中起重要作用<sup>[7]</sup>。近期研究发现, HMGB1对铁死亡具有重要的调控作用<sup>[8-9]</sup>。但其是否通过调控M2型小胶质细胞铁死亡介导抑郁症发生发展尚不明确。5-羟色胺受体7(5-hydroxytryptamine receptor 7, 5-HT7R)属于G蛋白偶联受体(G protein-coupled receptors, GPCRs),主要分布于前额叶皮质、海马和丘脑等情绪和认知相关脑区,在抑郁症中发挥关键作用<sup>[10-11]</sup>。研究发现, DAMP分子S100B可与5-HT7R互作

调控抑郁样行为<sup>[12]</sup>。但HMGB1是否通过5-HT7R介导抑郁样行为仍需探究。5-HT7R作为GPCR,激活后通过腺苷酸环化酶(adenylate cyclase, AC)/环磷酸腺苷(cyclic adenosine monophosphate, cAMP)/蛋白激酶A(protein kinase A, PKA)信号通路调控细胞功能<sup>[13]</sup>。激活的PKA可磷酸化蛋白激酶B(protein kinase A, PKB, 也称AKT)和细胞外信号调节激酶(extracellular signal-regulated kinase, ERK),进而影响细胞增殖、分化及代谢<sup>[13]</sup>。核因子E2相关因子2(nuclear factor erythroid 2-related factor 2, Nrf2)信号通路是中和铁死亡的经典信号通路,研究发现,磷酸化的AKT和ERK促进Nrf2入核,进而促进抗氧化通路相关蛋白的转录<sup>[14]</sup>。

本研究对5-HT7R敲除(5-HT7R knockout, 5-HT7R<sup>-/-</sup>)小鼠与同窝野生型(wild type, WT)小鼠进行HMGB1过表达病毒(AAV-HMGB1)海马区注射,3周后检测小鼠抑郁样行为、M2型小胶质细胞铁死亡、神经炎症及cAMP/PKA、Nrf2/胱氨酸-谷氨酸交换体(xCT)/谷胱甘肽过氧化物酶4(glutathione peroxidase 4, GPX4)信号通路变化,旨在为抑郁症治疗提供新靶点和理论依据。

## 1 材料与方法

### 1.1 实验动物

健康、性成熟、雌雄各半的5-HT7R杂合子(5-HT7R<sup>+/+</sup>)小鼠,品系C57BL/6,SPF级,体质量18~20 g,周龄6~8周,购于赛业(苏州)生物科技公司[SCXK(苏)2020-0006]。随后由本课题组进行繁殖和饲养,通过对其后代进行基因型鉴定,筛选出体质量18~20 g、周龄6~8周的雄性5-HT7R<sup>-/-</sup>小鼠和同窝WT小鼠进行实验。实验小鼠饲养于SPF级的四川大学华西药学院动物房[SYXK(川)2022-0261],室温(23±1)℃,湿度(50±10)%,昼夜交替光暗时间为12 h/12 h,动物自由饮水。本研究严格遵守四川大学动物伦理委员会管理条例和准则,且获得四川大学动物伦理委员会批准(批号:K2024026)。

### 1.2 主要试剂

HMGB1过表达病毒(AAV-HMGB1)购于和元生物技术(上海)股份有限公司;5-HT7R抗体购于Abcam公司;HMGB1和PKAC $\beta$ 抗体购于武汉三鹰生物技术有限公司;铁蛋白重链(ferritin heavy chain, FTH)、AKT、p-AKT、ERK、p-ERK、Keap1、Nrf2、血红素加氧酶-1(heme oxygenase-1, HO-1)、NAD(P)H醌脱氢酶1[NAD(P)H quinone dehydrogenase 1, NQO1]、xCT、GPX4、诱导型一氧化氮合酶(inducible nitric oxide synthase, iNOS)、CD206、神经元核抗原(neuronal nuclei antigen, NeuN)抗体购于杭州华安生物技术有限公司;微管相关蛋白2(microtubule-associated protein 2, MAP-2)抗体购于美国Affinity Bioscience公司;离子钙结合接头分子1(ionized calcium-binding adapter molecule 1, Iba-1)抗体购于Wako公司;还原型谷胱甘肽(glutathione, GSH)和氧化型谷胱甘肽(oxidized glutathione, GSSG)检测试剂盒和总超氧化物歧化酶(superoxide dismutase, SOD)活性检测试剂盒购于碧云天生物有限公司;组织亚铁离子试剂盒购于武汉伊莱瑞特生物科技股份有限公司;丙二醛(malondialdehyde, MDA)检测试剂盒购于南京建成生物科技股份有限公司。

### 1.3 实验动物分组

①为确定HMGB1过表达病毒海马区注射能否上调小鼠海马区HMGB1表达,本研究应用在线随机化工具产生随机化底表,将WT雄性小鼠随机分为2组,即AAV-Scramble和AAV-HMGB1组,每组6只。样本量估算:应用PASS 15.0软件进行样本量估算,设置双侧假设检验,Power为0.8,  $\alpha$ 为0.05,得出每组样本量为6。AAV-Scramble组和AAV-HMGB1组小鼠分别左侧海马区脑立体定位注射0.4  $\mu$ L空白病毒和HMGB1过表达病毒(AAV-

HMGB1,滴度 $\geq 1.0 \times 10^{12}$  vg/mL)。

②为评价5-HT7R敲除本身对抑郁样行为的影响,本研究对雄性5-HT7R<sup>-/-</sup>小鼠与同窝WT小鼠进行抑郁样行为检测,即分为WT组和5-HT7R<sup>-/-</sup>组,每组28只。随机化分组方法与①中一致,样本量估算:应用PASS 15.0软件进行样本量估算,设置双侧假设检验,Power为0.9,  $\alpha$ 为0.05,得出每组样本量为28。

③为探究HMGB1与5-HT7R在小鼠抑郁样行为中的调控作用,本研究将雄性5-HT7R<sup>-/-</sup>小鼠与同窝WT小鼠分为以下4组:WT/AAV-Scramble、5-HT7R<sup>-/-</sup>/AAV-Scramble、WT/AAV-HMGB1和5-HT7R<sup>-/-</sup>/AAV-HMGB1组,每组12只,其中6只用于Western blot和铁死亡相关指标检测,另外6只用于免疫荧光染色检测。AAV-HMGB1组小鼠左侧海马区注射0.4  $\mu$ L AAV-HMGB1, AAV-Scramble组小鼠注射等体积空白病毒。随机化分组方法与①中一致,样本量估算:应用PASS 15.0软件进行样本量估算,设置 $f$ 为0.25, Power为0.8,  $\alpha$ 为0.05,得出每组进行行为学检测的样本量为12,进行生化检测的样本量为6。

为保证实验准确性,病毒注射和实验数据分析均由不同的研究人员负责,且其均不知晓实验分组情况。

### 1.4 5-HT7R<sup>-/-</sup>小鼠基因型鉴定

剪取3周左右小鼠的尾部,随后利用DNA提取试剂盒提取DNA样本。根据提取的DNA样本进行两次PCR扩增反应,使用的引物分别是WT Primer (Forward: 5'-GCCAACTACGAAATGAAAACCCA-3', Reverse: 5'-ATACACTGGTGGAAAGTCACAAGG-3')和KO Primer (Forward: 5'-TGATCCATCTGAAAAGTGCACAAG-3', Reverse: 5'-ATACACTGGTGGAAAGTGCACAAGG-3')。电泳结束后,将凝胶放入BIO-RAD凝胶成像系统进行显影,根据条带所在的位置(WT Primer: 722 bp; KO Primer: 512 bp)判断小鼠的基因型。

### 1.5 HMGB1过表达病毒海马区注射

待小鼠吸入混有氧气和氮气的异氟烷(浓度为1.5%)麻醉后,将其固定于脑立体定位仪上,暴露出前囟位置。找到需要注射病毒的海马区位置:前囟后2.0 mm,旁开1.5 mm,深度2.0 mm。随后用颅骨钻仔细钻开颅骨,用微量注射器将2  $\mu$ L PBS(含有0.4  $\mu$ L AAV-HMGB1或空白病毒)缓慢注射进小鼠的海马区域,注射速度为0.5  $\mu$ L/min,留针5 min。结束后,缓慢拔出微量注射器,小心缝合小鼠头皮。病毒注射3周后,检测小鼠的抑郁样行为。

### 1.6 抑郁样行为评价

#### 1.6.1 糖水偏好实验(sucrose preference test, SPT)

在正式实验前2 d,小鼠自由饮用两瓶1%蔗糖溶液,

以达到适应目的。在正式实验时,所有小鼠均自由饮用1瓶1%蔗糖溶液和1瓶自来水,持续4 d,中途需要调换蔗糖溶液和自来水的位置。4 d后,记录小鼠糖水和自来水的消耗量,利用以下公式计算小鼠的糖水偏好:糖水偏好(%) = 蔗糖溶液摄入量/总摄入量×100%。

### 1.6.2 强迫游泳实验 (forced swim test, FST)

准备一个塑料圆筒(高40 cm,直径80 cm),向圆筒中加入30 cm高的自来水,水温23~25 °C。将小鼠放入其中,自由游动5 min,该过程全程录像。实验结束后,录像用专业软件进行分析,计算小鼠静止不动的时间。

### 1.6.3 旷场实验 (open field test, OFT)

准备一个空旷区域(长50 cm,宽50 cm,高50 cm),让小鼠在其中自由活动10 min,该过程全程录像。实验结束后,录像用专业软件进行分析,计算小鼠自由移动的距离。

### 1.7 Western blot分析目标蛋白的表达水平

病毒注射3周后,脱颈处死小鼠,取小鼠海马组织,加入RIPA裂解液进行匀浆,静止30 min。随后4 °C、14 000×g条件下离心15 min。离心结束后,吸取上清,加入1/4体积的5×SDS-PAGE蛋白上样缓冲液,充分吹打混匀,100 °C加热5 min。随后上样在60 V、60 min,120 V、60 min条件下进行电泳。电泳结束后在300 mA条件下进行转膜,随后进行封闭以及一抗孵育过夜。次日,洗膜结束后,进行二抗孵育1 h。最后使用BIO-RAD凝胶成像系统进行显影,以 $\beta$ -actin作为内参,以目的条带与内参条带光密度值的比值作为目的条带的相对表达量,利用Image Lab软件对条带进行统计分析。

### 1.8 实时定量聚合酶链反应 (qRT-PCR) 分析目标基因mRNA水平

取小鼠海马组织,加入Trizol溶液匀浆,提取RNA样本。按照Thermo Scientific逆转录试剂盒说明书进行RNA逆转录,得到cDNA样本。最后通过内参基因(*GAPDH*)和目的基因(*HMGB1*)的引物(*GAPDH* Forward: 5'-AGCAGTCCCCTACACTGGCAAAC-3'; Reverse: 5'-TCTGTGGTGATGTAAATGTCCTCT-3'; *HMGB1* Forward: 5'-CGGAGAACTTCAGACCGGA-3'; Reverse: 5'-CCCATGTTTAGTTGATTTTCCAGC-3')进行扩增反应,以 $2^{-\Delta\Delta Ct}$ 值计算目的基因的相对表达水平。

### 1.9 免疫荧光染色分析目标蛋白的表达水平

小鼠脑组织固定脱水后,用冰冻切片机将其切为15  $\mu$ m的冰冻切片。取出冰冻切片,室温多聚甲醛固定30 min,随后0.3% Triton破膜30 min。破膜结束后,进行高温抗原修复,随后室温放凉。在37 °C用5% BSA封闭1 h

后,进行一抗孵育过夜。次日,脑片清洗3次后,进行37 °C二抗孵育1 h。最后使用荧光显微镜摄片。

### 1.10 ELISA检测海马组织cAMP水平

取小鼠海马组织,加入适量PBS匀浆。在4 °C、5 000×g条件下离心10 min,取上清作为待测样品,同时检测上清的蛋白浓度。根据cAMP试剂盒说明书,检测海马组织中cAMP水平。

### 1.11 海马组织Fe<sup>2+</sup>含量、GSH/GSSG、MDA水平以及SOD活性的检测

收集小鼠海马组织,同时加入相应提取试剂并匀浆,离心后收集上清。按照各个试剂盒的说明书检测小鼠海马组织的Fe<sup>2+</sup>含量、GSH/GSSG、MDA水平以及SOD活性。

### 1.12 统计学方法

实验数据绘图采用Graph Pad Prism 9.2统计分析软件,实验数据分析采用SPSS 26.0软件,结果均以 $\bar{x} \pm s$ 表示。两组间比较采用独立样本 $t$ 检验。当存在两个变量时,采用析因设计的方差分析,以基因型和模型作为独立变量进行主效应及两者间交互效应的检验,采用Bonferroni进行事后检验。 $P < 0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。

## 2 结果

### 2.1 AAV-HMGB1上调WT小鼠海马区HMGB1表达

结果见图1。相比于AAV-Scramble组,AAV-HMGB1组WT小鼠海马区HMGB1的mRNA与蛋白水平均上调( $P < 0.01$ ),提示AAV-HMGB1海马区注射3周上调WT小鼠海马区HMGB1表达。

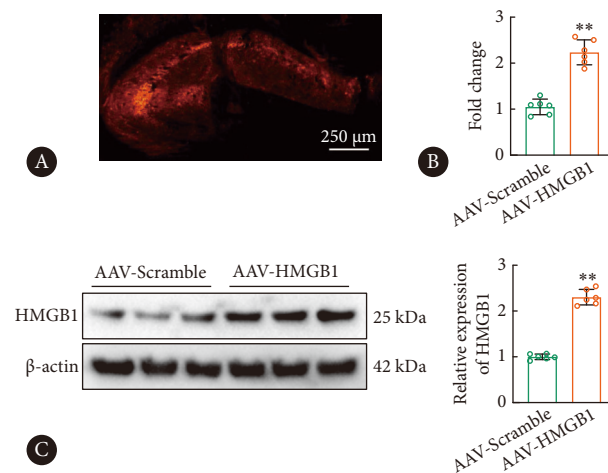


图1 AAV-HMGB1上调WT小鼠海马区HMGB1表达

Fig 1 AAV-HMGB1 upregulates HMGB1 expression in the hippocampus of WT mice

A, Representative fluorescence image of blank virus carrying red fluorescence; B, mRNA levels of *HMGB1*; C, Western blot results. \*\*  $P < 0.01$ , vs. AAV-Scramble group.  $n = 6$ .

**2.2 5-HT7R敲除减轻HMGB1过表达诱导的小鼠抑郁样行为与神经元损伤**

本研究对5-HT7R<sup>-/-</sup>小鼠的基因型进行鉴定,结果显示(图2),5-HT7R<sup>-/-</sup>小鼠筛选成功。本研究首先对5-HT7R<sup>-/-</sup>小鼠与WT小鼠进行抑郁样行为检测,以评价5-HT7R敲除本身对抑郁样行为的影响。结果显示(图3A),与WT组相比,5-HT7R<sup>-/-</sup>组小鼠的糖水消耗量、水中静止时间以及自由移动距离均无明显变化,提示5-HT7R敲除本身对抑郁样行为无影响。随后,本研究对5-HT7R<sup>-/-</sup>小鼠与同窝WT小鼠进行AAV-HMGB1海马区注射,3周后检测其抑郁样行为及海马区神经元损伤情况。结果显示(图3B、3C),HMGB1过表达降低小鼠的糖水消耗量,增加水中静止时间,同时减少自由移动距离(均P<0.01),提示HMGB1过表达诱导小鼠抑郁样行为。而5-HT7R敲除减轻HMGB1过表达诱导的小鼠抑郁样行为(P<0.01)。此外,如图4所示,HMGB1过表达诱导小鼠海马CA1区神经元缺失及突触损伤(均P<0.01),而5-HT7R敲除减轻

HMGB1过表达诱导的小鼠海马CA1区神经元损伤(P<0.01)。

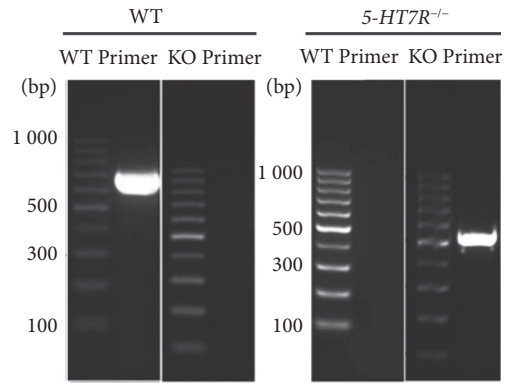


图 2 5-HT7R敲除小鼠的基因型鉴定  
Fig 2 The identification of 5-HT7R knockout mice by genotyping

**2.3 5-HT7R敲除减轻HMGB1过表达诱导的小鼠海马区铁死亡**

结果见图5。HMGB1过表达降低小鼠海马区GSH/

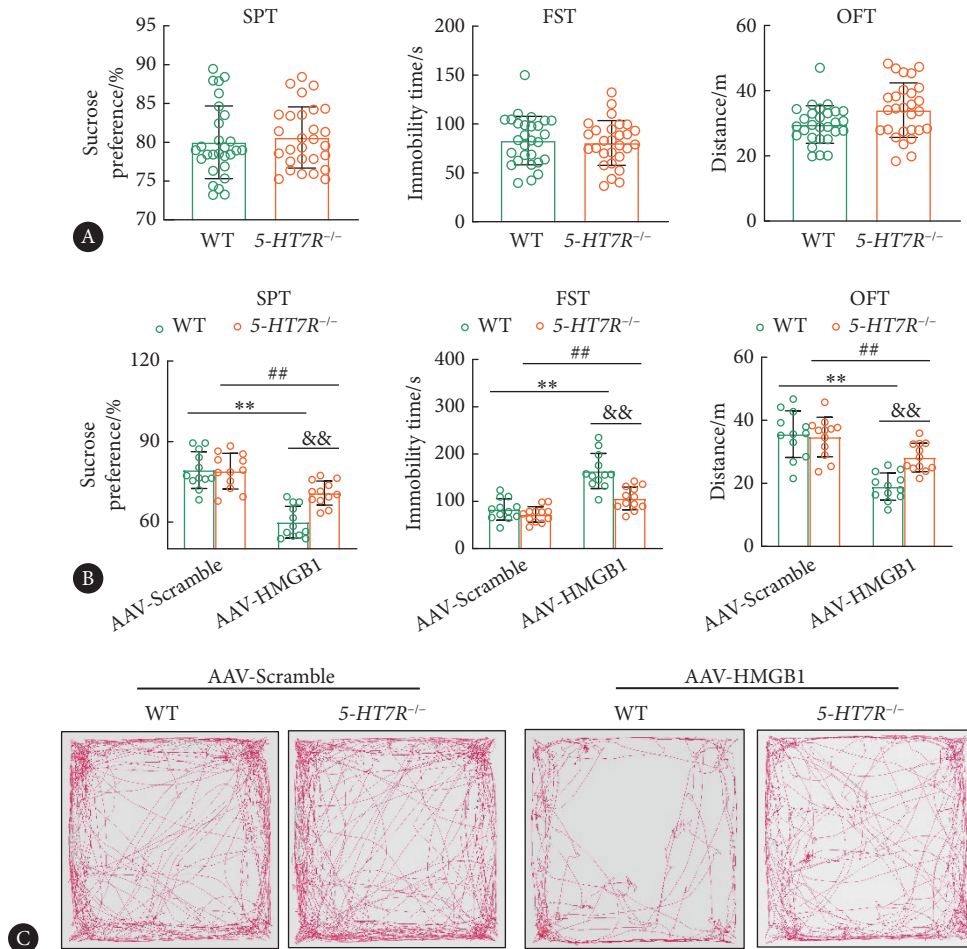


图 3 5-HT7R敲除减轻HMGB1过表达诱导的小鼠抑郁样行为

Fig 3 5-HT7R knockout attenuates depressive-like behaviors induced by HMGB1 overexpression in mice

SPT: sucrose preference test; FST: forced swim test; OFT: open field test. A, Baseline behaviors in the mice (n = 28); B, depressive-like behaviors in the mice after AAV-HMGB1 injection (n = 12); C, representative track images of the open field test. \*\* P < 0.01, ## P < 0.01, && P < 0.01.

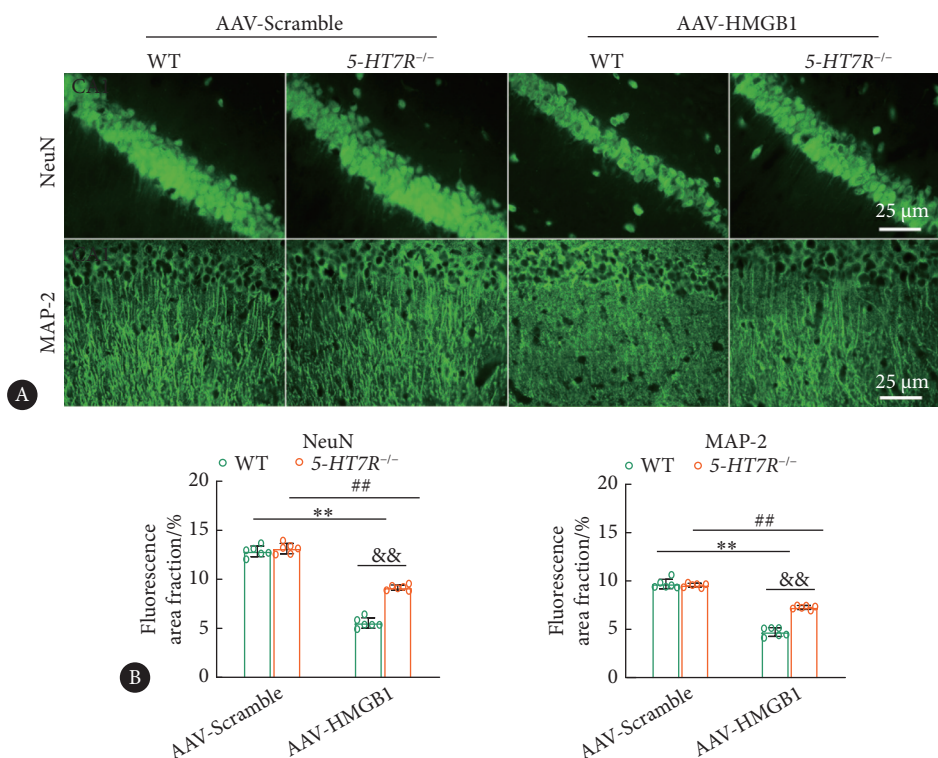


图 4 5-HT7R敲除减轻HMGB1过表达诱导的小鼠海马区神经元损伤

Fig 4 5-HT7R deletion mitigates hippocampal neuron injury induced by HMGB1 overexpression in mice

NeuN: neuronal nuclei antigen; MAP-2: microtubule-associated protein 2. A, Representative images of NeuN and MAP-2; B, quantitative analysis. \*\*  $P < 0.01$ , ##  $P < 0.01$ , &&  $P < 0.01$ .  $n = 6$ .

GSSG比值及SOD活性( $P < 0.01$ ),同时上调Fe<sup>2+</sup>与MDA水平( $P < 0.01$ ),提示HMGB1过表达诱导小鼠海马区铁死亡。而5-HT7R敲除减轻HMGB1过表达诱导的小鼠海马区铁死亡( $P < 0.01$ )。

#### 2.4 5-HT7R敲除改善HMGB1过表达对小鼠海马区cAMP/PKA与Nrf2/xCT/GPX4信号通路的抑制

结果见图6。HMGB1过表达上调小鼠海马区5-HT7R表达( $P < 0.01$ ),同时下调cAMP/PKA与Nrf2/xCT/GPX4信号通路蛋白表达( $P < 0.01$ ),而5-HT7R敲除改善HMGB1过表达对海马区cAMP/PKA与Nrf2/xCT/GPX4信号通路的

抑制( $P < 0.01$ )。

#### 2.5 5-HT7R敲除减轻HMGB1过表达诱导的小鼠海马区M2型小胶质细胞铁死亡与神经炎症

结果见图7。HMGB1过表达上调小胶质细胞中5-HT7R、FTH表达,下调Nrf2表达( $P < 0.01$ ),提示HMGB1过表达诱导小鼠海马区小胶质细胞铁死亡,而5-HT7R敲除减轻HMGB1过表达诱导的海马区小胶质细胞铁死亡( $P < 0.01$ )。

接着,本研究进一步对海马区M2型小胶质细胞铁死亡及神经炎症进行检测。如图8A、8B所示, HMGB1过表达上调FTH与CD206(M2型小胶质细胞标志物)的表达共

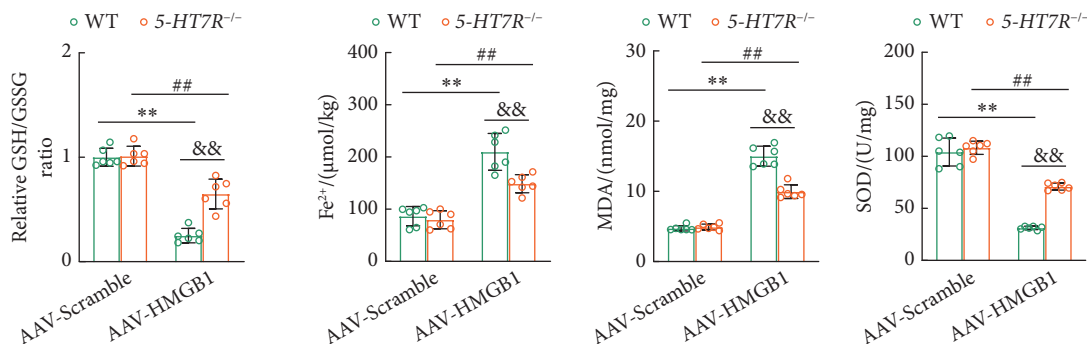


图 5 5-HT7R敲除减轻HMGB1过表达诱导的小鼠海马区铁死亡

Fig 5 5-HT7R knockdown alleviates hippocampal ferroptosis induced by HMGB1 overexpression in mice

GSH/GSSG: glutathione/oxidized glutathione; MDA: malondialdehyde; SOD: superoxide dismutase. \*\*  $P < 0.01$ , ##  $P < 0.01$ , &&  $P < 0.01$ .  $n = 6$ .

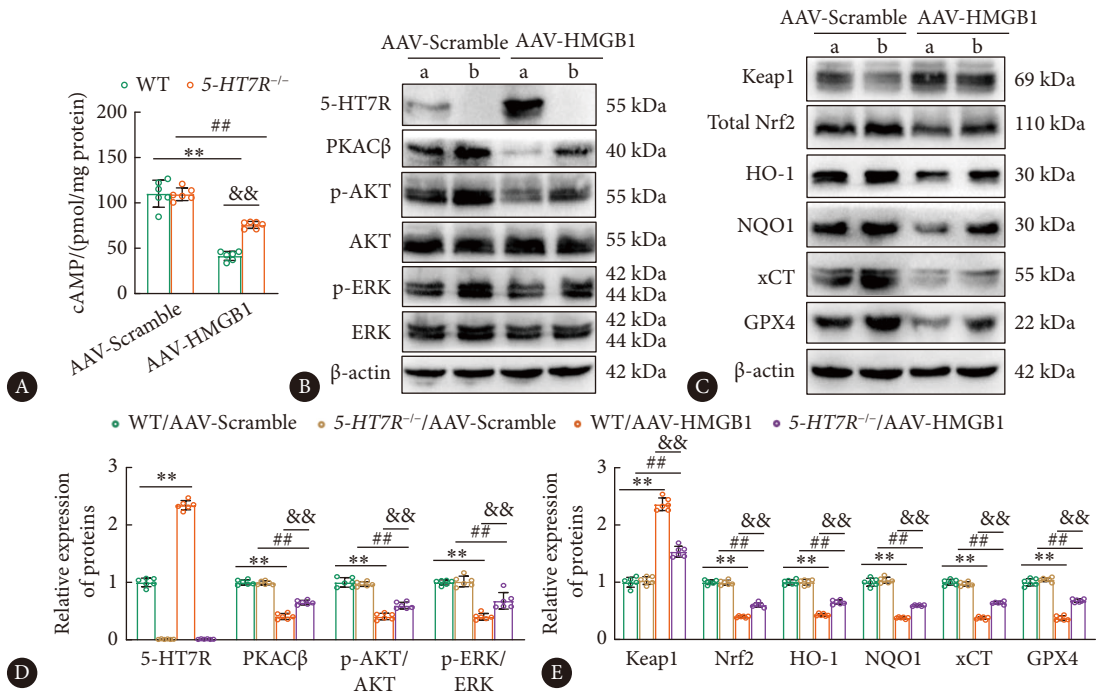


图 6 5-HT7R 敲除改善 HMGB1 过表达对小鼠海马区 cAMP/PKA 与 Nrf2/xCT/GPX4 信号通路的抑制

Fig 6 5-HT7R knockout improves the reduction of hippocampal cAMP/PKA and Nrf2/xCT/GPX4 signaling pathways induced by HMGB1 overexpression in mice

cAMP: cyclic adenosine monophosphate; PKACβ: protein kinase A Cβ; AKT: protein kinase B; ERK: extracellular signal-regulated kinase; Keap1: Kelch-like ECH-associated protein 1; Nrf2: nuclear factor erythroid 2-related factor 2; HO-1: heme oxygenase-1; NQO1: NAD(P)H quinone dehydrogenase 1; xCT: cystine-glutamate exchanger; GPX4: glutathione peroxidase 4; a: WT; b: 5-HT7R<sup>-/-</sup>. A, The levels of cAMP in the hippocampus; B and C, Western blot; D and E, the relative protein expression. \*\* P < 0.01, \*\* P < 0.01, \*\* P < 0.01. n = 6.

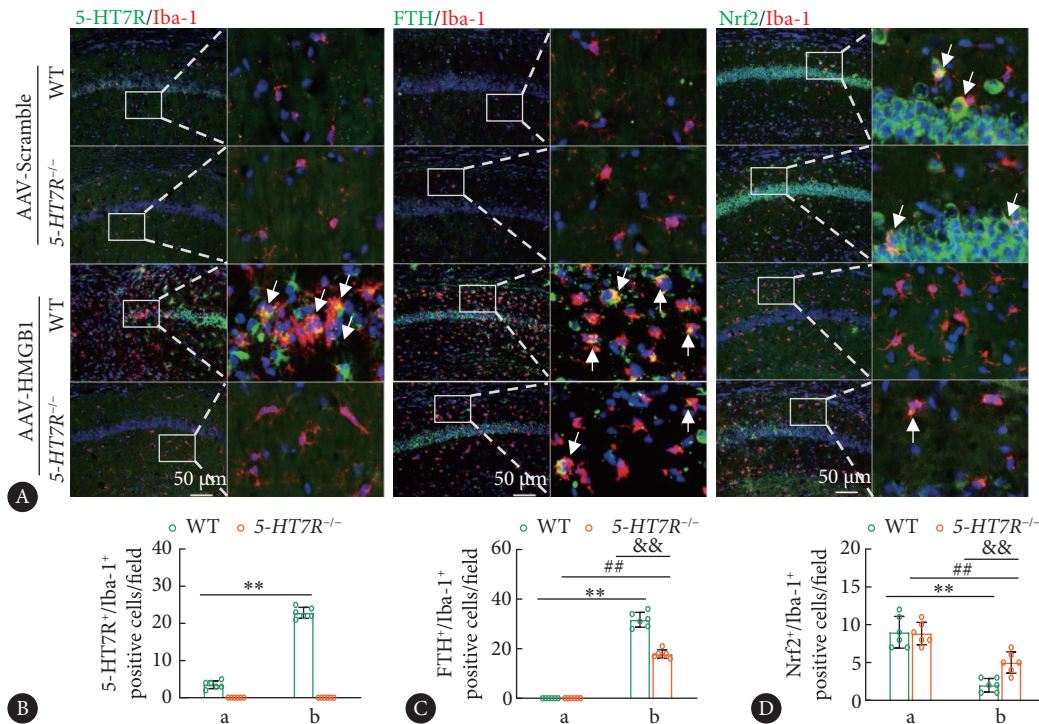


图 7 5-HT7R 敲除减轻 HMGB1 过表达诱导的小鼠海马区小胶质细胞铁死亡

Fig 7 5-HT7R deletion attenuates microglial ferroptosis in the hippocampus induced by HMGB1 overexpression in mice

Iba-1: ionized calcium-binding adapter molecule 1; FTH: ferritin heavy chain; Nrf2: nuclear factor erythroid 2-related factor 2; a: AAV-Scramble; b: AAV-HMGB1. A, Representative immunofluorescence images; B-D, statistical analysis. \*\* P < 0.01, \*\* P < 0.01, \*\* P < 0.01. n = 6.

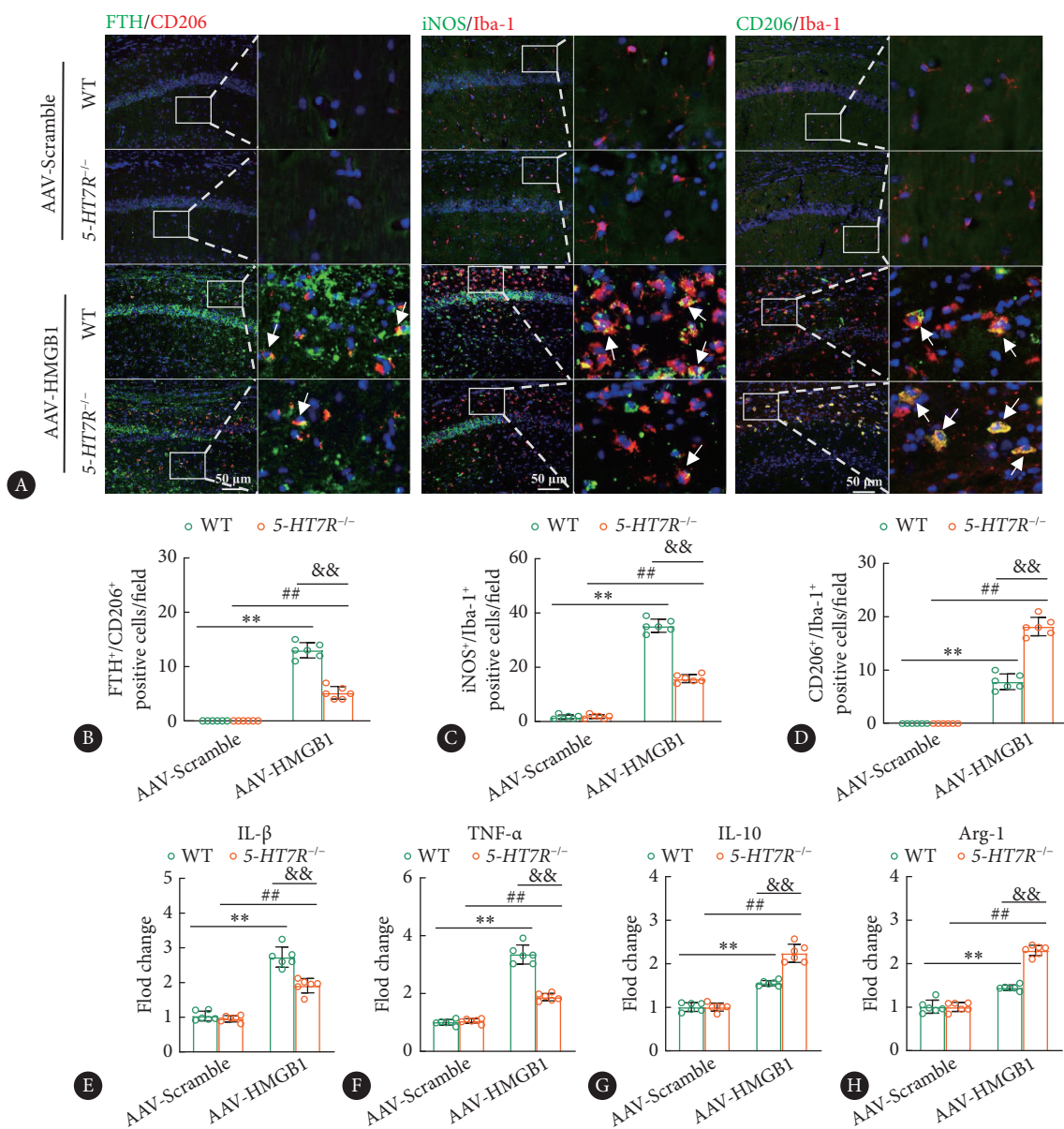


图 8 *5-HT7R*敲除减轻HMGB1过表达诱导的小鼠海马区M2型小胶质细胞铁死亡与神经炎症

Fig 8 *5-HT7R* knockout alleviates hippocampal M2 microglial ferroptosis and neuroinflammation induced by HMGB1 overexpression in mice

FTH: ferritin heavy chain; iNOS: inducible nitric oxide synthase; Iba-1: ionized calcium-binding adapter molecule 1; IL: interleukin; TNF- $\alpha$ : tumour necrosis factor- $\alpha$ ; Arg-1: arginase-1. A, Representative immunofluorescence images; B-D, statistical analysis; E-H, the levels of inflammatory factors in the hippocampus. \*\*  $P < 0.01$ , #  $P < 0.01$ , ##  $P < 0.01$ , ###  $P < 0.01$ .  $n = 6$ .

定位( $P < 0.01$ ),提示HMGB1过表达诱导海马区M2型小胶质细胞铁死亡。而5-*HT7R*敲除降低HMGB1过表达诱导的FTH与CD206的表达共定位( $P < 0.01$ )。M2型小胶质细胞铁死亡可致M1/M2型比例失衡,加重炎症反应。因此,本研究最后对海马区M1型与M2型小胶质细胞,以及炎症因子进行检测。如图8A、8C、8D所示, HMGB1过表达明显上调iNOS与Iba-1、CD206与Iba-1的表达共定位( $P < 0.01$ ),而5-*HT7R*敲除降低iNOS与Iba-1的表达共定位( $P < 0.01$ ),同时进一步增加CD206与Iba-1的表达共定位( $P < 0.01$ )。此外,如图8E ~ 8H所示, HMGB1过表达诱导

促炎因子(IL-1 $\beta$ 、TNF- $\alpha$ )以及抗炎因子(IL-10、Arg-1)的表达( $P < 0.01$ ),而5-*HT7R*敲除明显减轻HMGB1过表达诱导的促炎因子表达( $P < 0.01$ ),同时可促使抗炎因子进一步上调( $P < 0.01$ )。上述结果表明,5-*HT7R*敲除减轻HMGB1过表达诱导的小鼠海马区M2型小胶质细胞铁死亡与神经炎症。

### 3 讨论

大量研究发现, HMGB1通过激活免疫细胞上TLR2、TLR4、RAGE等受体,触发神经炎症,进而诱导抑郁样行

为发生<sup>[15-17]</sup>。但HMGB1过表达是否诱导抑郁样行为发生未见报道。海马作为大脑边缘系统,调控人体情绪、认知及记忆等生理功能,海马区神经元丢失以及突触损伤是抑郁症重要的病理基础<sup>[18]</sup>。因此,本研究将海马作为研究抑郁症的关键脑区。结果发现,小鼠海马区HMGB1过表达诱导小鼠抑郁样行为及神经元损伤,此外, HMGB1过表达上调海马区5-HT7R表达,而5-HT7R敲除减轻HMGB1过表达诱导的小鼠抑郁样行为及神经元损伤。该结果与之前的报道一致,即5-HT7R的敲除或病理性阻断显著减轻大鼠或小鼠的抑郁样行为<sup>[19-20]</sup>。上述结果表明, HMGB1与5-HT7R对小鼠抑郁样行为发挥关键调控作用。

在抑郁症模型中,小胶质细胞极化及其介导的神经炎症在抑郁症的发病机制中扮演重要角色<sup>[2-4]</sup>。此外,研究发现, M2型小胶质细胞对铁死亡敏感,而M1型对此不敏感<sup>[5-6]</sup>。为进一步探究HMGB1与5-HT7R调控小鼠抑郁样行为的潜在机制,本研究对小鼠海马区M2型小胶质细胞铁死亡及神经炎症进行检测。本研究首先对小鼠海马区铁死亡相关指标进行检测,结果表明,5-HT7R敲除减轻HMGB1过表达诱导的小鼠海马区铁死亡。5-HT7R作为GPCR,通过调控胞内第二信使cAMP及其下游PKA/AKT信号通路,介导病理生理功能<sup>[21]</sup>。Nrf2/xCT/GPX4信号通路是体内重要的抗氧化应激通路,其中Nrf2作为重要的转录因子,通过调控多种抗氧化蛋白的表达,维持细胞内氧化还原稳态和铁代谢平衡<sup>[22]</sup>。此外,研究发现,经PKA磷酸化的AKT、ERK可诱导Nrf2核转移,进而促进抗氧化蛋白转录<sup>[22]</sup>。为进一步探究HMGB1与5-HT7R调控海马区铁死亡的潜在分子机制,本研究对海马区cAMP/PKA与Nrf2/xCT/GPX4信号通路进行检测。结果表明,5-HT7R敲除可改善HMGB1过表达对小鼠海马区cAMP/PKA和Nrf2/xCT/GPX4信号通路的抑制。随后,本研究进一步对小鼠海马区M2型小胶质细胞铁死亡及神经炎症进行检测。结果表明, HMGB1过表达诱导小鼠海马区M2型小胶质细胞铁死亡,进而加重神经炎症。而5-HT7R敲除可减轻HMGB1过表达诱导的M2型小胶质细胞铁死亡,同时促使小胶质细胞极化由M1型向M2型转变,进而减轻神经炎症。本研究采用5-HT7R全敲除小鼠进行研究,存在一定的局限性。未来还需要采用小胶质细胞条件敲除小鼠进行进一步验证。此外, HMGB1能否上调星形胶质细胞上5-HT7R,以及能否通过调节星形胶质细胞上5-HT7R信号通路介导小鼠抑郁样行为,还需要进一步研究。

综上所述, HMGB1通过激活5-HT7R,下调cAMP/PKA/AKT/Nrf2/GPX4信号通路,进而介导海马区M2型小

胶质细胞铁死亡及神经炎症,最终促进小鼠抑郁样行为。

\* \* \*

**作者贡献声明** 杜欧负责调查研究、研究方法和初稿写作,段上上负责研究项目管理和验证,唐轮负责正式分析和可视化,杜俊蓉负责论文构思、经费获取、提供资源、监督指导和审读与编辑写作。所有作者已经同意将文章提交给本刊,且对将要发表的版本进行最终定稿,并同意对工作的所有方面负责。

**Author Contribution** DU Ou is responsible for investigation, methodology, and writing--original draft. DUAN Shangshang is responsible for project administration and validation. TANG Lun is responsible for formal analysis and visualization. DU Junrong is responsible for conceptualization, funding acquisition, resources, supervision, and writing--review and editing. All authors consented to the submission of the article to the Journal. All authors approved the final version to be published and agreed to take responsibility for all aspects of the work.

**利益冲突** 所有作者均声明不存在利益冲突

**Declaration of Conflicting Interests** All authors declare no competing interests.

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