

引文格式:胡慧聪,张家豪,张妍,何宇茜. BMP4/Smad 信号通路的分子机制及其在眼部疾病中的作用[J].

眼科新进展,2021,41(4):391-396. doi:10.13389/j.cnki.rao.2021.0082

【文献综述】

BMP4/Smad 信号通路的分子机制及其在眼部疾病中的作用[△]

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收稿日期:2020-06-16

修回日期:2020-08-21

本文编辑:王燕

△基金项目:吉林省科技厅国际科技合作项目(编号:20200801016GH);吉林省科技厅自然科学基金(编号:20180101146JC);吉林省医疗卫生人才专项项目(编号:2019SCTZ052、2019SCTZ057、2020SCTZ089)

理过程相关,如细胞的增殖和分化、介导炎症反应、细胞凋亡、细胞迁移以及应激反应^[17-19]。在眼中,ERK 信号通路和晶状体发育有关^[20];JNK 信号通路和视网膜退行性疾病病变密切相关^[21];p38 MAPK 信号通路可能抑制角膜内皮细胞的增殖^[22],还与糖尿病视网膜病变有关^[23];JNK、p38 MAPK 信号通路发生改变可能影响视网膜色素上皮(RPE)氧化应激损伤的程度^[24]。

3 BMP4/Smad 信号通路的分子机制

在经典 Smad 信号通路中,BMP4 与 BMPR-II 结合,使 BMPR-I 磷酸化。活化的 BMPR-I 使 Smad1/5/8 磷酸化。磷酸化的 Smad1/5/8 与 Co-Smad4 结合形成复合体,该复合体作为细胞核的转录因子参与靶基因表达的调控。BMP4/Smad 信号通路和多种细胞调控有关。BMP4/Smad 信号通路可以影响血管内皮屏障功能,调节血管内皮细胞连接的稳定性^[25]。BMP4 可以通过 Smad1 促进细胞外基质(ECM)的沉积^[26]。此外,BMP4 还可以促进与 ECM 密切相关的结构的生长,并调控其发育的完整性^[27]。

经典 BMP4/Smad 信号通路在眼部起重要作用。Kiyono 等^[28]研究显示,在新生大鼠眼部发育过程中,BMP4/Smad1 介导瞳孔区的毛细血管内皮细胞凋亡,从而使瞳孔膜退化,促进瞳孔和晶状体完整的发育结构形成。Liu 等^[29]研究显示,Co-Smad4 参与作用角膜上皮和角膜基质细胞的生长发育和稳态^[29]。Xu 等^[30]研究显示,在 RPE 中过量表达 BMP4 后行激光诱导实验,发现脉络膜新生血管几乎无法产生,提示 BMP4 对新生血管具有主导调控作用,而且 BMP4 依赖 Smad1/5 信号通路降低肿瘤坏死因子(TNF)和基质金属蛋白酶9(MMP-9)的表达,抑制脉络膜新生血管。

在非经典 Smad 信号通路中,活化的 BMPR-I 激活下游信号,上调或下调相关因子的表达量,进而参与调控细胞的凋亡、迁移等^[17-19]。其中 BMP4/ERK1/2 信号通路和多种细胞的 EMT 有关^[31];BMP4 可以通过 JNK 和 p38 MAPK 信号通路对内皮细胞的分化和凋亡起重要作用^[32-33];BMP4 还可以通过 JNK 信号通路参与细胞的自噬^[34]。

BMP4/Smad 信号通路和 Wnt/ β -catenin、成纤维细胞生长因子(fibroblast growth factor,FGF)等信号通路具有相互调节作用。例如,在 Wnt/ β -catenin 信号通路调节的肠道发育中,BMP4/ERK1/2 信号通路起重要作用^[35];在眼中,Wnt/ β -catenin 信号通路可以通过调控 BMP4/Smad 信号通路,影响角膜上皮的分化和稳态^[36-37];BMP4/Smad 信号通路还可以与 FGF 信号通路相互调节,进而影响晶状体的发育^[10]。

4 BMP4/Smad 信号通路在眼发育中的作用

4.1 BMP4/Smad 信号通路在眼前节发育中的作用

眼前节发育不全(anterior segment dysgenesis, ASD)是眼前节组织的一系列发育综合征,目前已发现其与 BMP4 密切相关^[11]。但是尚不清楚是何种来源的 BMP4 导致 ASD。Rausch 等^[38]研究显示,BMP4 在睫状缘表达丰富,但睫状缘衍生的 BMP4 在眼部的发育中并不起主要作用,因此,他们认为 ASD 是一种非自主细胞来源的缺陷。

此外,BMP4 还与角膜上皮分层密切相关,这提示 BMP4 可能与角膜形成有关^[39]。目前已证实,Wnt/ β -catenin 通路在角膜上皮细胞的发育中发挥重要作用,在小鼠发育过程中使用该通路的拮抗剂 Dkk2 会抑制角膜的分化^[40]。当 β -catenin 缺失时,会导致 BMP4 表达上调,ERK1/2 通路被激活,同时 Smad1/5 被磷酸化,p63 在小鼠的角膜基底上皮细胞中表达增加^[36]。其中 p63 可以启动角膜上皮细胞分层并维持角膜基底层角质细胞的增殖^[41]。综上所述,Wnt/ β -catenin 通路可以通过调控 BMP4/Smad 通路,进而影响角膜上皮分层。

4.2 BMP4/Smad 信号通路在晶状体发育中的作用

BMP4/Smad 信号通路和晶状体的发育密切相关,BMP4 与 Pax6(一种眼发育的必要基因)在晶状体板的形成中起协同作用。敲除 BMPR-1A 会降低 BMP4 的表达,虽不导致影响晶状体的形成,但会严重影响晶状体的发育^[42]。FGF 信号通路和 BMP 信号通路协同调节晶状体的发育。BMP 信号可以使晶状体细胞维持在最佳的 FGF 信号响应状态,同时 FGF 信号可以上调 BMP 信号介导的下游基因的表达^[43]。Gata3 基因是晶状体发育的关键基因之一,Gata3 基因缺失会引起晶状体发育的多种缺陷,包括细胞周期异常,纤维细胞分化受到抑制^[44]。有趣的是,BMP 和 FGF 信号通路可以通过识别 Gata3 基因的启动子和增强子,使分化中的晶状体纤维细胞中的 Gata3 表达上调,同时在体外实验中还发现 FGF2 和 BMP4 可以调节 Gata3 基因的启动子和增强子^[10]。这说明,探究 BMP4/Smad 通路和 FGF 通路的协同调节作用,对研究晶状体发育有重要意义。

4.3 BMP4/Smad 信号通路在视网膜发育中的作用

视网膜是眼中发育最早的组织,BMP4/Smad 通路在视网膜的发育中发挥重要作用。当 BMP4 缺失时,会造成多种与视网膜发育相关基因的异常表达^[45]。当敲除 BMPR-I A 和 BMPR-I B 时,胚胎的视网膜生长和视网膜神经发育受到严重影响,出现严重眼部缺陷。如果视泡中的 BMP4 表达降低,视杯将难以形成,并且视网膜远端囊泡中特定基因的表达显著降低^[46]。分化抑制因子(inhibitors of differentiation,Id)可以调控细胞周期和分化。BMP4、BMPR-1B、Smad1/5/8 在小鼠胚胎期(E13.5 ~ E18.5)和

出生后早期(P)1期的视网膜中高表达,并且视网膜前体细胞中存在 BMP/Smad/Id 信号通路,因此 BMP4/Smad1/5/8/Id 信号通路可能会影响视网膜的发育以及视网膜细胞的增殖分化^[47]。进一步探究 BMP4/Smad 通路在视网膜发育中的作用,将为许多视网膜疾病的治疗带来新方向。近期 Chichagova 等^[48]研究显示,通过激活 IGF1 和 BMP4 信号通路使人类诱导多功能干细胞(human induced pluripotent stem cells, hiPSC)转化为视网膜类器官,希望将 BMP4/Smad 通路在视网膜发育中的重要作用转向临床应用。

5 BMP4/Smad 信号通路在眼部疾病的作用

5.1 BMP4/Smad 信号通路在与角膜有关的疾病中的作用 BMP4 及其相关受体在成熟的角膜组织中表达丰富^[2],同时可以调控角膜细胞的增殖和凋亡。角膜上皮由角膜缘干细胞(limbal stem cell, LSC)产生,LSC 缺乏症(LSC deficiency, LSCD)是由于 LSC 缺失或功能障碍所导致的疾病,通常会引引起持续性疼痛和严重的视力障碍。对于单侧 LSCD,通常采用自体移植的治疗方法,但这并不适用于双侧的 LSCD。Kamarudin 等^[49]研究显示,将 hiPSC 分化为角膜上皮祖细胞,这为双侧 LSCD 治疗提供了一个方向^[49]。同时他们还发现内源性 BMP 信号的水平会影响 hiPSC 分化为角膜上皮样细胞的能力,其中 BMP4 可以诱导人胚胎干细胞(human embryonic stem cells, hESC)分化为角膜上皮祖细胞以及成熟的角膜上皮样细胞^[49]。Qin 等^[50]研究显示,使用视黄酸(retinoic acid, RA)、BMP4、条件培养基以及人去细胞的基质微透镜,可以诱导 hiPSC 获得高纯度的角膜上皮细胞系。综上所述,探究 BMP4/Smad 通路在诱导 hiPSC 分化为角膜上皮样细胞中的作用,对 LSCD 的治疗有重要意义。

BMP4/Smad 通路还与角膜上皮的更新密切相关。角膜缘上皮干细胞(limbal epithelial stem cell, LESC)缓慢增殖分化,并向角膜中央区域迁移,以维持角膜上皮的更新^[51]。当角膜发生纤维化时会造成 LESC 的丢失,LESC 的状态主要取决于其所处部位的生物力学特性。Gouveia 等^[37]研究显示,在体外实验中,当基质硬度增加时,BMP4 表达上调,而 β -catenin、 Δ Np63 表达降低,他们认为 Wnt/ β -catenin 信号通路以及其下游的 BMP4/Smad 通路与这一过程密切相关。因此,当 BMP4/Smad 通路密切活动时,角膜基质硬度增加,进而造成 LESC 的丢失,由此影响角膜上皮的更新。

5.2 BMP4/Smad 信号通路青光眼的关系 前文已介绍 BMP4 与 ASD 关系密切,而 ASD 常伴随有青光眼的发生。有研究者在 3D 成像实验中发现,BMP4 (+/-) 杂合子小鼠相对于野生型小鼠的 Schlemm 管部分缺失,这可能是该种小鼠眼压(IOP)

升高的原因之一^[52]。BMP4 杂合子缺失小鼠的 ASD 症状包括小梁网(trabecular meshwork, TM)发育不全、角膜与虹膜粘连,而 TM 是房水流出的主要部位,TM 发育不全是青光眼重要的发生原因之一^[53]。因此 BMP4 的缺失与房水流出受阻密切相关,由此造成 IOP 升高,诱发青光眼。

原发性开角型青光眼(POAG)是青光眼的主要类型之一。IOP 升高是 POAG 的主要风险因素之一,这主要是由于 TM 的房水流出受阻以及 TM 的 ECM 沉积。TGF- β 2 会增加 ECM 的沉积。而 BMP4/Smad 信号通路可以诱导 Id1/3 表达,抑制 TGF- β 2 通路,进而抑制 ECM 的产生^[54],从而降低 IOP。这说明 BMP4/Smad 信号通路或许会成为 POAG 新的治疗靶点之一。

5.3 BMP4/Smad 信号通路在与视网膜有关的疾病中的作用

5.3.1 BMP4/Smad 信号通路在视网膜神经保护和修复方面的作用 BMP 信号通路已被证实具有在神经系统的发育中具有重要作用,但其在发育成熟的神经系统的作用机制尚不清楚。BMP/Smad1/5/8 信号通路对视网膜神经节细胞(retinal ganglion cell, RGC)具有神经保护作用。Ueki 等^[55]研究显示,通过在玻璃体内注射 N-甲基-D-天冬氨酸诱导 RGC 大量死亡,结果发现 BMP2、BMP4 和 BMP7 表达上调,Smad1/5/8 磷酸化,同时 Id1 在视网膜的表达上调。其中 BMP4/Smad1 与中枢神经系统的轴突再生有关,可以促进脊髓后索轴突的再生和损伤修复^[56]。BMP4/Smad1 通路在 RGC 的神经突以及 RGC 再生时表达高度上调,这意味着 BMP4/Smad1 通路是 RGC 轴突再生和损伤修复的一个潜在治疗靶点^[57]。BMP4/Smad1/5/8 还可以通过抑制 TGF- β /Smad2/3 而促进 Müller 胶质细胞来源祖细胞(Müller glia-derived progenitor cell, MGPC)的形成,进而影响视网膜神经元的再生^[58]。综上所述,BMP4/Smad 通路可以通过作用于 TGF- β 通路以及下游基因对视网膜神经的保护和再生发挥一定作用。

5.3.2 BMP4/Smad 信号通路与年龄相关性黄斑变性的关系 随着年龄相关性黄斑变性(AMD)的发展,AMD 后期可以分为萎缩性 AMD 和新生血管性 AMD。BMP4 在这两种 AMD 中的表达存在差异,这意味着 BMP4 可能是决定 AMD 后期发展的一个分子开关^[59]。

BMP4 在萎缩性 AMD 患者的 RPE 以及相邻的 ECM 中高度表达^[60]。RPE 氧化应激和衰老是 AMD 发生的重要因素之一。BMP4 可以通过经典 Smad 通路和 p38 MAPK 通路,激活 p53 和 p21 (Cip1/WAF1),并且减少 Rb 磷酸化,从而触发 RPE 的衰老,这意味着 BMP4 可能是氧化应激诱导的萎缩性 AMD 的一个新的治疗靶点^[61]。

BMP4 还可以通过直接抑制 MMP9,间接抑制血

管内皮生长因子(VEGF)的表达,从而在新生血管性AMD中起到抗血管生成的作用。其中BMP4可以通过Smad1/5抑制RPE细胞中TNF诱导的MMP9的表达^[62]。Tosi等^[63]研究显示,BMP4/Smad通路或许还可以通过抑制TGF- β 1,对新生血管性AMD起到一定的治疗作用。

5.3.3 BMP4/Smad 信号通路与增生型玻璃体视网膜病变的关系 增生型玻璃体视网膜病变(proliferative vitreoretinopathy, PVR)是一种严重的影响视力的视网膜脱落并发症,其特征是形成可收缩性的纤维膜,并且与RPE细胞的EMT密切相关。BMP4在抑制纤维化方面发挥着重要作用,BMP4可以使Smad1/5/8磷酸化,抑制由TGF- β 诱导的Smad2/3磷酸化,从而抑制RPE细胞中由TGF- β 引起的EMT^[64]。这说明BMP4/Smad通路可以抑制TGF- β 通路,进而抑制RPE细胞的EMT,对PVR起一定的积极作用。

6 小结

BMP4在眼发育和成熟眼组织中起重要作用。如果BMP4/Smad信号通路被阻断,将会严重影响角膜、晶状体、视网膜的发育。从这一角度来看,或许会为诱导hiPSC从而治疗眼部疾病提供一个新思路。

此外,BMP4在成熟眼组织的多个部位表达。通过研究BMP4/Smad通路,可以进一步探究一些眼部疾病的发病机制,为临床治疗提供了新的可能。例如,BMP4/Smad通路与角膜上皮稳态密切相关,这或许会为角膜修复提供新方向;BMP4及其受体在TM中大量表达,与房水循环密切相关,可能成为青光眼的新的治疗靶点;BMP4/Smad通路在视网膜神经和血管中的作用也极有研究意义,将为许多视网膜疾病的治疗提供新思路。

同时BMP4/Smad通路与Wnt/ β -catenin、FGF、TGF- β 等通路相互作用,这几条通路本身与眼发育及部分眼部疾病关系密切,进一步探究眼组织中BMP4/Smad通路与其他通路的协同作用,或许会为眼发育及眼部疾病的研究带来意想不到的收获。

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Molecular mechanism of BMP4/Smad signaling pathway and its roles in ocular diseases

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[Abstract] Bone morphogenetic protein 4 (BMP4) transmits signals to downstream signaling via Smad signaling pathway and can interact with Wnt/β-catenin, FGF and other signaling pathways to regulate a series of physiological and pathological activities. BMP4/Smad signaling pathway plays an important role in eye. It's closely related to the development of anterior segment, lens, and retina. Meanwhile, BMP4 is highly expressed in adult ocular tissues, suggesting that BMP4/Smad signaling pathway is involved in the pathogenesis of some ocular diseases. BMP4/Smad signaling pathway plays a certain role in maintaining corneal epithelial homeostasis, protecting and repairing retinal nerves, and is also closely related to glaucoma, age-related macular degeneration, proliferative vitreoretinopathy and other diseases. In this review, we describe the molecular mechanism of BMP4/Smad signaling pathway and introduce the effects of BMP4/Smad signaling pathway on eye development and ocular diseases.

[Key words] bone morphogenetic protein 4; Smad; eye development; ocular tissues; ocular diseases

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Progress in etiology and correction of myopic anisometropia

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[Abstract] In recent years, the prevalence of myopic anisometropia is increasing. Severe myopic anisometropia can damage binocular vision, resulting in strabismus, severe asthenopia and other problems, which seriously affect patient's career and the quality of life. However, the etiology and pathogenesis of myopic anisometropia are still unclear, and the importance of preventing, controlling and correcting myopic anisometropia often be ignored. Therefore, we intend to review the recent research on the etiology, pathogenesis and treatment of myopic anisometropia to provide a basis for further understanding the cause and treatment of myopic anisometropia.

[Key words] myopic anisometropia; etiology; pathogenesis; correction