



基于 FFPE 组织切片的膀胱癌 N-连接糖链原位酶解及分析*

程颖^{1)**} 孙承文^{2)**} 秦艳³⁾ 时帅⁴⁾ 李岳阳⁵⁾ 樊启高⁴⁾ 杨刚龙^{1)***} 高晓冬^{1)***}

¹⁾ 江南大学生物工程学院糖化学与生物技术教育部重点实验室, 无锡 214122; ²⁾ 江南大学附属医院泌尿外科, 无锡 214028;

³⁾ 江南大学附属医院病理科, 无锡 214028; ⁴⁾ 江南大学物联网工程学院, 无锡 214122; ⁵⁾ 江南大学人工智能与计算机学院, 无锡 214122)

摘要 目的 研究膀胱癌 FFPE 组织切片的 N-连接糖链, 发现膀胱癌 FFPE 肿瘤组织的异常 N-连接糖链修饰情况。方法 发展基于 FFPE 组织切片原位提取 N-连接糖链的实验流程。通过 PNGase F 酶切 FFPE 组织解释放 N-连接糖链。对 N-连接糖链自由端进行全甲基化修饰。通过 MALDI-TOF/TOF-MS 检测 N-连接糖链的相对含量。进行数据库匹配, 确定 N-连接糖链的可能糖型。ROC 分析用于预测显著差异 N-连接糖链作为预测膀胱癌生物标志物的准确度。结果 MALDI-TOF/TOF-MS 检测泛甲基化修饰 N-连接糖链的数据显示, 在 16 例膀胱癌患者的肿瘤和癌旁组织的 3 次重复实验中, 肿瘤组织中蛋白质高甘露糖型 N2H6、N2H7、N2H8、N2H9 和复杂型 N5H6F1 糖链修饰水平显著上升, 同时高甘露糖型 N2H5、杂合型 N3H5 以及复杂型 N3H4、N4H4、N5H6F1S2 糖链修饰水平显著下降。ROC 分析显示, 双天线型 N-连接糖链 N3H4 ($AUC=0.90$) 和 N4H4 ($AUC=0.91$) 在单独或者共同区分膀胱癌患者肿瘤组织和癌旁组织中都具有很好的可靠性, 可能成为膀胱癌的潜在生物标志物。结论 膀胱癌 FFPE 肿瘤组织中存在蛋白质异常 N-糖基化修饰, N-连接糖链 N3H4 和 N4H4 或可成为膀胱癌的潜在生物标志物。

关键词 N-连接糖链, 膀胱癌, FFPE 切片, 生物标志物

中图分类号 Q53

DOI: 10.16476/j.pibb.2021.0393

N-连接糖基化是常见的蛋白质翻译后修饰之一, 在细胞间黏附、细胞迁移、发育、病原体识别和感染等重要生物过程中起着至关重要的作用^[1-5]。N-连接糖链是在肽序列 Asn-X-Ser/Thr (其中 X 代表除脯氨酸以外的任何氨基酸) 处共价连接到天冬酰胺的低聚糖, 具有共同的五糖核心结构, 经过一系列糖基化相关酶的催化, 可产生多种 N-连接糖链结构变异, 并被分为 3 种类型: 高甘露糖型、杂合型和复杂型^[6]。有研究发现, 肿瘤的发生和发展与机体 (组织、血清、尿液、腹水等) 的 N-连接糖基化异常密切相关^[7]。更值得注意的是, N-连接糖基化修饰是在细胞器中一系列有组织的酶反应控制下进行的, 具有很高的特异性, 且对细胞内外环境的细微变化非常敏感, 具有作为肿瘤标志物的先天优势^[8]。因此, N-连接糖基化修饰物在肿瘤诊断中潜力巨大, 其中包含的 N-连接糖链也是肿瘤标志物的主要研究对象之一。例如, 在 13 对

结肠癌肿瘤组织和相应对照结肠组织 N-连接糖链变化的研究中发现, 平分型 N-连接糖链在肿瘤组织中显著减少, 可用作判断结肠癌的潜在生物标志物^[9]。

膀胱癌是泌尿生殖系统的恶性肿瘤, 以尿路上皮癌居多^[10]。膀胱癌的发病率在男性和女性癌症患者中分别位居第 4 和第 11 位^[11]。随着技术的发展, 关于膀胱癌 N-连接糖基化的研究更加深入, 涵盖 N-连接糖基化相关基因及蛋白质表达和蛋白质翻译后 N-连接糖链修饰水平^[12-14]。其中关于膀胱癌 N-连接糖链研究的生物样本来源各异, 包括

* 国家自然科学基金 (21778023) 资助项目。

** 并列第一作者。

*** 通讯联系人。

杨刚龙 Tel: 18706192951, E-mail: glyanglife@jiangnan.edu.cn

高晓冬 Tel: 13812055629, E-mail: xdgao@jiangnan.edu.cn

收稿日期: 2021-12-16, 接受日期: 2022-02-25

膀胱癌细胞系、患者血液或尿液等^[14-16]。有研究解析了膀胱癌患者血清球蛋白上N-连接糖链,发现N5H5F1等的显著上调可指示膀胱癌发生,并引入N-连接糖链集合评分模式(dNGscore)帮助判断膀胱癌^[17]。但目前尚无对膀胱癌患者组织中N-连接糖链作为膀胱癌生物标志物的研究,与癌症细胞系、患者血液或尿液相比,患者肿瘤组织能更直接真实反应其癌症发生后肿瘤部位的N-连接糖链异常修饰情况。

相较于完整手术组织和冷冻组织切片,福尔马林浸泡石蜡包埋(formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded, FFPE)保存的组织切片更易获得,其贮存要求也更低^[18],且FFPE组织切片已被证实其中的N-连接糖链修饰情况与冷冻切片基本一致,并与临床表型密切相关^[19]。基质辅助激光解析电离质谱(matrix assisted laser desorption ionization-mass spectrometry, MALDI-MS)常被研究人员用来表征分析FFPE组织切片的N-连接糖链^[20],达到快速鉴定微量的组织中蛋白质N-连接糖链的目的。近年来,质谱成像(mass spectrometry imaging, MSI)技术不断发展成熟,已经实现了对N-连接糖链在组织切片中的原位分布解析,揭示了N-连接糖链在肿瘤组织中的不均一性^[21]。此外,从组织上分离N-连接糖链是质谱检测FFPE组织切片中N-连接糖链的关键步骤,目前的分离方法有:刮取玻片上的组织并裂解释放蛋白质,溶液内酶解蛋白释放N-连接糖链^[20];原位酶解组织,实现组织直接释放N-连接糖链^[22]。相较于前者而言,后者操作更简便。

综合考虑上述情况,本文发展了一种原位酶解组织释放N-连接糖链(*in-situ* N-linked glycan release)联合质谱分析的方法(INGR-MS)研究膀胱癌FFPE组织切片的N-连接糖链修饰水平。利用该方法分析了16例膀胱癌患者的癌症和癌旁的FFPE组织切片,结果显示:在肿瘤组织中,高甘露糖型N2H6、N2H7、N2H8、N2H9和复杂型N5H6F1糖链修饰水平显著提高;高甘露糖型N2H5、杂合型N3H5和复杂型N3H4、N4H4、N5H6F1S2糖链修饰水平显著下降。ROC分析显示,双天线型N-连接糖链N3H4($AUC=0.90$)和N4H4($AUC=0.91$)在单独或者共同区分膀胱癌患者肿瘤组织和癌旁组织中都具有很好的可靠性,可

能成为膀胱癌的潜在生物标志物。

1 材料与方法

1.1 材料

乙醇、柠檬酸、柠檬酸钠、盐酸和三氯甲烷购自国药集团化学试剂有限公司;碳酸氢铵(NH_4HCO_3)、2,5-二羟基苯甲酸(DHB)、氯化钠(NaCl)、氢氧化钠(NaOH)、标准肽、三氟乙酸(TFA)、乙酸(FA)、甲醇和二甲亚砜(DMSO)购自Sigma-Aldrich(美国);二甲苯购自上海阿拉丁生化科技股份有限公司;碘甲烷购自西亚化学科技有限公司;PNGase F购自北京生夏蛋白技术有限公司;C18 SPE膜片购自3M公司(美国);多孔石墨化碳(PGC)层析柱购自Sigma-Aldrich(美国)。16例膀胱癌患者的组织切片来自江南大学附属医院,患者样本信息如表1所示,16例癌症组织中,15例为尿路上皮癌,1例为鳞状细胞癌(表S1)。本研究中涉及人体样本的所有程序均符合江南大学生物安全与伦理委员会的伦理标准。

Table 1 Sample information

	Peritumoral ¹⁾	Tumor
Numbers	16	16
Age \pm SD	69.63 \pm 8.66	69.63 \pm 8.66
Male	15	15
Female	1	1

¹⁾ Peritumoral tissue is defined as histologically-normal and < 2 cm from the cancer tissue.

1.2 FFPE组织切片脱石蜡与抗原修复

FFPE切片通过两次二甲苯洗涤脱蜡,每次10 min;然后在100%乙醇浸泡2次,5 min/次;再分别在95%、90%、80%和70%(v/v)的乙醇溶液浸泡一次,各3 min;而后用超纯水浸泡2次,3 min/次;最后在真空干燥器中干燥5 min。之前有关FFPE切片的研究发现,抗原修复可以消除福尔马林浸泡造成的蛋白质交联,暴露更多蛋白质^[23]。将切片置于装有pH 3.0抗原修复缓冲液的切片盒中,于95°C下孵育30 min;然后将切片盒置于冷水中冷却5 min;再用水替换切片盒中一半缓冲液后在冷水中冷却2次,5 min/次;而后用超纯水冲洗切片10~15 s;最后在真空干燥器中干燥5 min。

1.3 N-连接糖链提取及全甲基化

将PNGase F溶液 (PNGase F溶于40 mmol/L NH_4HCO_3 ; 1:50 (v/v)) 覆盖在切片组织区域, 于45°C环境下干燥20 min后, 在自制湿盒内37°C孵育3 h。用50 mmol/L NH_4HCO_3 覆盖组织3次, 5 min/次; 收集合并覆盖溶液即为N-连接糖链。使用自制的PGC枪头和ACN/水系统纯化N-连接糖链并冷冻干燥。随后进行N-连接糖链的全甲基化: 将NaOH和DMSO的匀浆加入干燥N-连接糖链样品中, 再加入碘甲烷, 室温下避光振荡25 min, 加入水使反应停止; 用三氯甲烷萃取全甲基化N-连接糖链, 三氯甲烷层用水洗涤8次, 氮吹干燥样品。

1.4 N-连接糖链MALDI-TOF/TOF-MS检测

5 μl 甲醇: 水 (1:1, v/v) 溶解全甲基化N-连接糖链, 取1 μl 与1 μl DHB-Na 基质溶液 (20 g/L DHB、10% 甲醇、1 mmol/L NaCl) 混合, 上样于MTP Anchorchip靶板 (900 μm , 384点) 上, 并在室温下干燥。使用FlexControl 3.0 (Bruker Daltonics GmbSH, Bremen, Germany) 控制UltrafleXtreme MALDI-TOF/TOF MS (Bruker Daltonics GmbH, Bremen, Germany) 分析N-连接糖链样品。仪器参数设置如下: 阳离子模式, 离子源1: 24.59 kV, 离子源2: 22.19 kV; 反射模式, 反射电压1: 26.63 kV, 反射电压2: 13.44 kV; 质量测定范围, 1.5~4.5 ku。在一级图谱中选择目标峰进行二级质谱分析, 具体参数设置如下: 离子源1: 7.5 kV, 离子源2: 6.8 kV; 反射电压1: 29.1 kV, 反射电压2: 13.95 kV, LIFT1: 19 kV; LIFT2: 3.15 kV。

1.5 N-连接糖链结构注释及数据分析

使用FlexAnalysis 3.3 (Bruker Daltonics GmbSH, Bremen, Germany) 对谱图进行5次smooth并执行1次Baseline subtraction, 选择信噪比大于3的同位素峰, 将 m/z 和intensity信息导出为xlsx格式。用GlycoWorkbench 2手动注释N-连接糖链结构, 参数设定如下: GlycomeDB数据库, 离子形式为 $[\text{M}+\text{Na}]^+$, 电荷量为+1, 前体离子容忍度为1, 碎片离子容忍度为0.5。为了研究膀胱癌肿瘤和癌旁组织中N-连接糖链修饰水平的差异, 使用N-连接糖链的质谱强度数据表征其修饰水平。为了消除不同样本间的个体差异, 采用N-连接糖链的相对强度进行比较, 单一谱图中某一N-连接糖链强度与该谱图中所有N-连接糖链强度的比值

为其相对强度。为了降低实验误差, 取3次重复的N-连接糖链相对强度均值进行肿瘤和癌旁组织之间的比较。使用GraphPad Prism 8绘制散点图比较肿瘤和癌旁组织间的N-连接糖链修饰水平差异, 并使用双尾配对 t 检验验证数据的显著差异程度。使用GraphPad Prism 8绘制受试者操作特征(receiver operating characteristic, ROC)曲线展示在癌症中异常修饰的N-连接糖链对膀胱癌判断的准确度, 其曲线下面积(area under curve, AUC)值即为其预测准确度。

2 结果与分析

2.1 膀胱癌FFPE组织切片N-连接糖链分析

以FFPE组织切片为材料研究患者组织的N-连接糖链变化, 对原位酶解组织释放N-连接糖链联合质谱分析的方法进行了优化。优化后具体流程如下: FFPE组织切片经脱石蜡、复水化和抗原修复后, 用PNGaseF酶解组织释放N-连接糖链, 再经PGC-Tip富集后进行泛甲基化修饰, 然后用MALDI-TOF/TOF-MS检测甲基化N-连接糖链并进行数据分析(图1)。选取来自16例不同保存时间的膀胱癌患者FFPE切片, 共32个组织切片样本, 每个样本组织包含3次重复, 切片HE染色结果显示膀胱癌肿瘤区域清晰可见(图S1)。同一患者肿瘤和癌旁组织的FFPE切片N-连接糖链图谱显示两者间的N-连接糖链特征具有明显差异(图2a)。同时, 在癌旁和肿瘤组织各切片检测到N-连接糖链的个数中位数分别为33和36.5, 同一个体重复样品之间N-连接糖链检测数量差异较小, 且癌旁和肿瘤组织间N-连接糖链数目集中在同一数目范围内(图2b), 说明该糖链鉴定方法具有很好的稳定性且可进行癌旁与肿瘤间的比较。此外, 在癌旁和肿瘤组织中大多数N-连接糖链的变异系数(CV)值低于30%, 且CV值的中值分别为27.70%和22.35%(图2c), 3次重复间的差异在可允许范围内, 适用于膀胱癌FFPE组织切片的N-连接糖链分析^[24]。随后, 为了探究FFPE组织切片保存时间对蛋白质糖基化修饰的影响, 对不同保存时间(1、2、3和4年)的FFPE组织切片鉴定的N-连接糖链进行了主成分分析(principal component analysis, PCA), 结果表明不同储存时间的FFPE组织切片的N-连接糖链之间没有显著差异, 说明FFPE保存可以稳定维持蛋白质及其糖基化修饰的实际状态(图2d)。

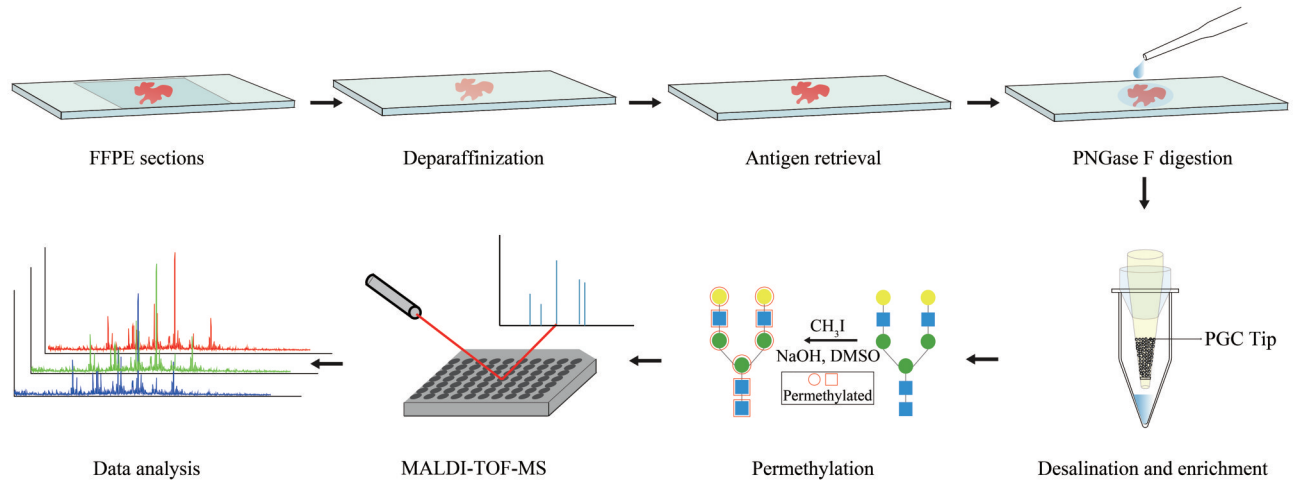


Fig. 1 Workflow of N-glycan profiling from FFPE tissue sections

The FFPE section was deparaffinized and antigen retrieval. Then FFPE section was digested with PNGase F to release N-glycans, the N-glycans were purified and enriched with a home-made PGC Tip and then permethylated. Finally, the glycans were detected using MALDI-TOF/TOF-MS and the glycan compositions were analyzed from the MS data using Glycworkbench.

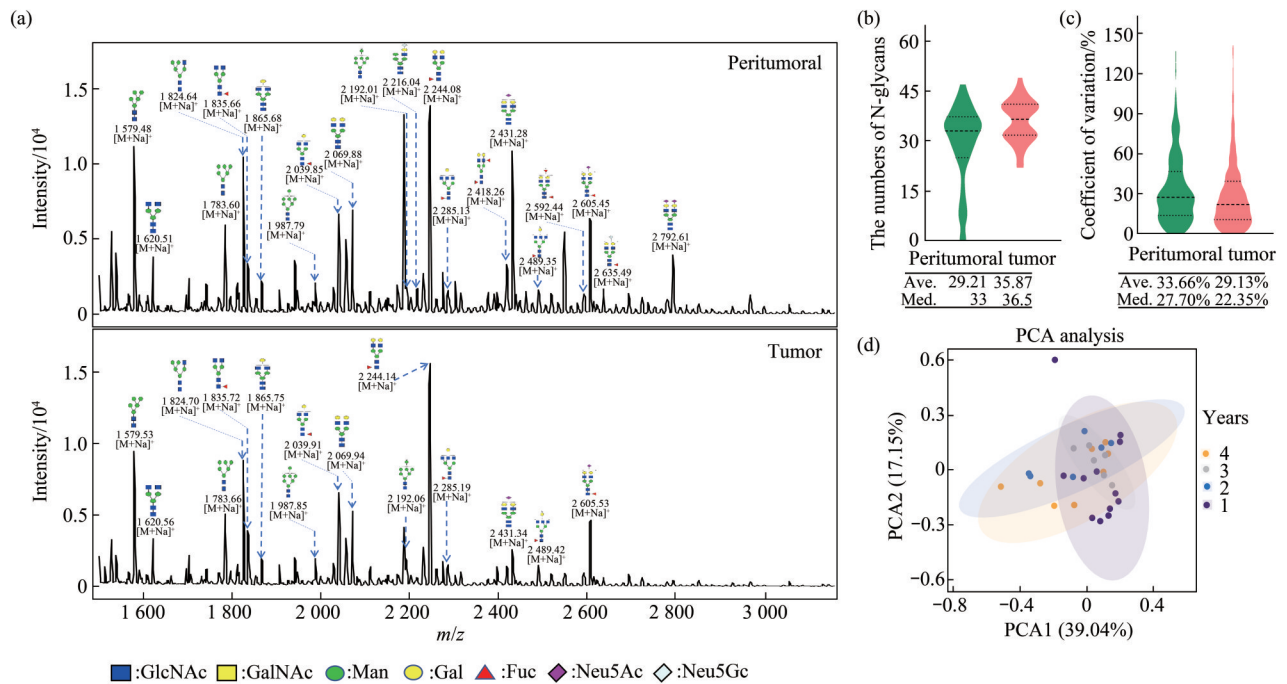


Fig. 2 N-glycan profiling of FFPE tissue sections

(a) Mass spectra of peritumoral (top) and tumor (bottom) tissues. (b) Number of N-glycan from 76 bladder tissue samples. (c) The distribution of coefficient of variation (CV) of N-glycan peaks for peritumoral and tumor from three repeated experiments, with median of 26.81% and 22.40%, respectively. (d) The PCA analysis of the effect of storage time.

2.2 膀胱癌FFPE组织切片N-连接糖链定性分析

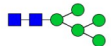
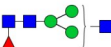

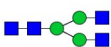
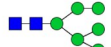
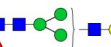

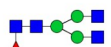
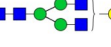



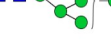
本研究从16对膀胱癌FFPE组织切片中共鉴定到76种N-连接糖链(表2),包括5种高甘露糖型、

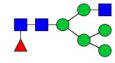
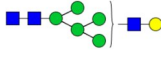
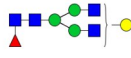
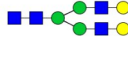
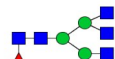
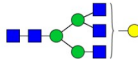
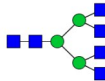
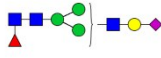
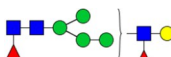


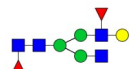

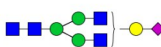
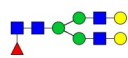
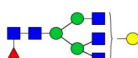
4种杂合型和67种复杂型N-连接糖链;对糖链进行了二级质谱分析确定其糖型,部分二级谱图见图S2。在76种鉴定的N-连接糖链中有46种


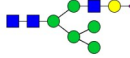



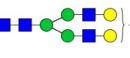
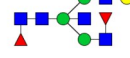
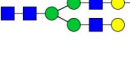
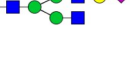
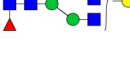





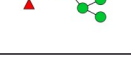
(60.53%) 糖链结构被岩藻糖基化修饰, 另外有 28 种 (36.84%) N-连接糖链被唾液酸化修饰。对于单一 N-连接糖链而言, 高甘露糖型在癌旁组织和肿瘤组织种的相对强度均比较高, 而复杂型中多分支型和唾液酸化修饰的 N-连接糖链的相对强度较低 (图 3a)。癌旁和癌组织中分别鉴定出 66 和 73 种 N-连接糖链, 除共同鉴定到的 63 种 N-连接糖链

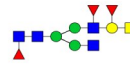
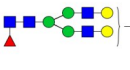
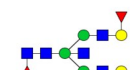
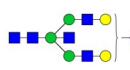
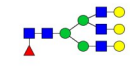
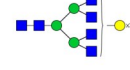
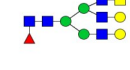
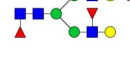
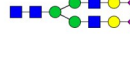
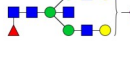
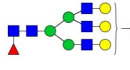
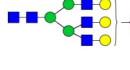
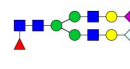
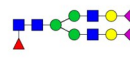
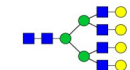

外, 只在肿瘤组织或癌症组织中鉴定到的 N-连接糖链的情况如下: 肿瘤组织中有 10 种 (N3H4F1S1、N6H3F1、N5H4F2、N7H4、N6H5F1、N6H6、N7H6F1、N5H5F1S2、N6H7F2、N8H9F1), 均为复杂型, 主要为单岩藻糖基化修饰的 N-连接糖链; 癌旁组织中有 3 种 (N3H4S1、N9H3F1、N6H5F3), 均为复杂型 (图 S3)。

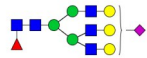
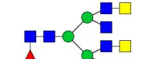
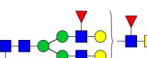



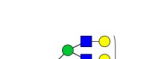

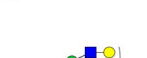





Table 2 76 N-glycan compositions and their putative structures identified in this study

N-glycan component	Calculated mass/u	Detected mass/u	Putative structures	N-glycan type	Peritumoral	Tumor
N2H5	1 579.783	1 579.932		High mannose	√	√
N3H3F1	1 590.799	1 590.951		Complex	√	√
N3H4	1 620.809	1 620.963		Complex	√	√
N4H3	1 661.836	1 661.991		Complex	√	√
N2H6	1 783.882	1 784.047		High mannose	√	√
N3H4F1	1 794.898	1 795.064		Complex	√	√
N3H5	1 824.909	1 825.077		Hybrid	√	√
N4H3F1	1 835.925	1 836.094		Complex	√	√
N4H4	1 865.936	1 866.106		Complex	√	√
N5H3	1906.962	1907.131		Complex	√	√
N3H4F2	1 968.988	1 968.296		Complex	√	√
N3H4S1	1 981.983	1 981.916		Complex	√	/
N2H7	1 987.982	1 988.162		High mannose	√	√

Continued to Table 2						
N-glycan component	Calculated mass/u	Detected mass/u	Putative structures	N-glycan type	Peritumoral	Tumor
N3H5F1	1 998.998	1 999.034		Hybrid	√	√
N3H6	2 029.009	2 029.187		Complex	√	√
N4H4F1	2 040.025	2 040.210		Complex	√	√
N4H5	2 070.035	2 070.224		Complex	√	√
N5H3F1	2 081.051	2 081.240		Complex	√	√
N5H4	2 111.062	2 111.253		Complex	√	√
N6H3	2 152.088	2 151.202		Complex	√	√
N3H4F1S1	2 156.072	2 156.211		Complex	/	√
N3H5F2	2 173.087	2 172.218		Complex	√	√
N2H8	2 192.230	2 192.282		High mannose	√	√
N3H6F1	2 203.098	2 203.334		Complex	√	√
N4H4F2	2 214.114	2 213.281		Complex	√	√
N3H5G1	2 216.093	2 216.264		Complex	√	√
N4H4S1	2 227.109	2 227.299		Complex	√	√
N4H5F1	2 244.125	2 244.331		Complex	√	√
N5H4F1	2 285.151	2 285.363		Complex	√	√

Continued to Table 2						
N-glycan component	Calculated mass/u	Detected mass/u	Putative structures	N-glycan type	Peritumoral	Tumor
N6H3F1	2 326.178	2 326.558		Complex	/	✓
N3H6S1	2 390.182	2 390.445		Hybrid	✓	✓
N2H9	2 396.182	2 396.399		High mannose	✓	✓
N4H4F1S1	2 401.198	2 401.635		Complex	✓	✓
N4H5F2	2 418.214	2 418.607		Complex	✓	✓
N4H5S1	2 431.209	2 431.426		Complex	✓	✓
N5H4F2	2 459.240	2 459.617		Complex	/	✓
N4H5G1	2 461.220	2 461.615		Complex	✓	✓
N5H4S1	2 472.236	2 472.549		Complex	✓	✓
N5H5F1	2 489.251	2 489.464		Complex	✓	✓
N5H6	2 519.261	2 519.477		Complex	✓	✓
N3H6F1S1	2 564.272	2 563.822		Complex	✓	✓
N4H5F3	2 592.303	2 592.739		Complex	✓	✓
N7H4	2 601.314	2 600.531		Complex	/	✓
N4H5F1S1	2 605.298	2 605.512		Complex	✓	✓
N4H6F2	2 622.313	2 621.762		Hybrid	✓	✓

Continued to Table 2						
N-glycan component	Calculated mass/u	Detected mass/u	Putative structures	N-glycan type	Peritumoral	Tumor
N5H4F3	2 633.329	2 633.522		Complex	√	√
N4H5F1G1	2 635.309	2 635.721		Complex	√	√
N5H5F2	2 663.340	2 663.441		Complex	√	√
N5H5S1	2 676.335	2 676.043		Complex	√	√
N5H6F1	2 693.351	2 693.559		Complex	√	√
N6H5F1	2 734.377	2 734.846		Complex	/	√
N6H6	2 764.388	2 764.915		Complex	/	√
N4H5F2S1	2 779.387	2 778.770		Complex	√	√
N4H5S2	2 792.383	2 792.795		Complex	√	√
N5H5F1S1	2 850.424	2 850.824		Complex	√	√
N5H6F2	2 867.440	2 866.817		Complex	√	√
N5H6S1	2 880.435	2 880.832		Complex	√	√
N4H5F1S2	2 966.472	2 966.641		Complex	√	√
N6H7	2 968.487	2 968.850		Complex	√	√
N4H5F1S1G1	2 996.482	2 996.713		Complex	√	√
N5H6F3	3 041.529	3 041.741		Complex	√	√

N-glycan component	Calculated mass/u	Detected mass/u	Putative structures	N-glycan type	Continued to Table 2	
					Peritumoral	Tumor
N5H6F1S1	3 054.524	3 054.670		Complex	√	√
N9H3F1	3 061.557	3 062.263		Complex	√	/
N6H5F3	3 082.556	3 082.036		Complex	√	/
N6H7F1	3 142.577	3 142.695		Complex	√	√
N7H6F1	3 183.603	3 183.987		Complex	/	√
N5H5F1S2	3 211.598	3 211.986		Complex	/	√
N5H6S2	3 241.609	3 241.939		Complex	√	√
N6H7F2	3 316.666	3 316.903		Complex	/	√
N5H6F1S2	3 415.698	3 415.207		Complex	√	√
N6H7F1S1	3 503.750	3 503.679		Complex	√	√
N7H8F1	3 591.803	3 590.959		Complex	√	√
N5H6S3	3 602.782	3 602.982		Complex	√	√
N5H6F1S3	3 776.872	3 777.002		Complex	√	√
N8H9F1	4 041.029	4 040.914		Complex	/	√
N6H7F1S3	4 226.098	4 225.668		Complex	√	√

Component: N(HexNAc), H(Hex), F(Fucose), S(Neu5Ac), G(Neu5Gc). “/”, “√”, “√”, “√” respectively indicate that the N-linked glycan has not been detected, is detected in both peritumoral and tumor, only detected in peritumoral, and only detected in tumor.

对于3种亚型的N-连接糖链, 肿瘤组织中高甘露糖型N-连接糖链比癌旁组织高甘露糖型N-连接糖链相对丰度高6.8%, 肿瘤组织中复杂型N-连接糖链比癌旁组织中的相对丰度低5.7% (图3b)。对复杂型N-连接糖链进一步分析发现, 岩藻糖基化

和唾液酸化的N-连接糖链差异较大, 相比于癌旁组织, 肿瘤组织中的岩藻糖化的复杂型N-连接糖链的相对丰度高2%; 而唾液酸化的复杂型N-连接糖链的相对丰度低7%, 约为癌旁组织的一半 (图3c)。

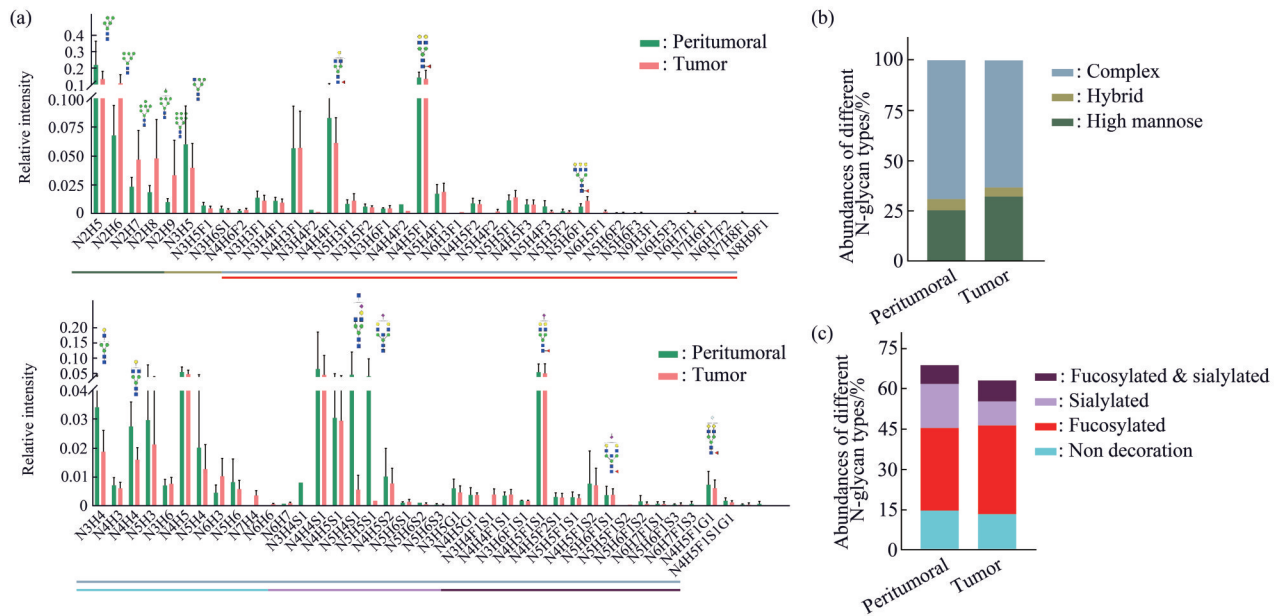


Fig. 3 Relative abundance of N-glycans

(a) The relative intensity of 76 N-glycans in peritumoral and tumor tissues. (b) The relative abundance of the three N-glycan types in peritumoral and tumor tissues. (c) The relative abundance of complex glycoforms in peritumoral and tumor tissues.

2.3 膀胱癌FFPE组织切片显著差异的N-连接糖链

对仅在肿瘤组织中出现的N-连接糖链分析发现, 这些特异表达的N-连接糖链在肿瘤组织中鉴定次数平均值为2.2, 同一样本间重复性差, 并有明显的个体差异 (表S2), 故为了提高差异指标的普适性, 选取在32个组织FFPE切片样本中鉴定次数70%以上 (即鉴定次数大于等于23) 的33个N-连接糖链, 对其相对强度进行配对t检验分析。结果显示, 与癌旁组织相比, 其中10个N-连接糖链修饰水平在肿瘤组织中表现出的显著上升或下降趋势, 且该趋势与患者的性别和年龄无关。在显著差异的N-连接糖链中, 5种N-连接糖链的修饰水平在肿瘤组织中显著上升, 其中4种N2H6 (1 784.05 u; $P<0.05$), N2H7 (1 987.98 u; $P<0.01$), N2H8 (2 192.23 u; $P<0.01$), N2H9 (2 396.18 u; $P<0.01$) 为高甘露糖型, 另一种N5H6F1 (2 693.35 u; $P<0.001$) 为复杂型; 5种N-连接聚糖修饰水平在

肿瘤组织中显著下降, 其中N2H5 (1 579.78 u; $P<0.05$) 为高甘露糖型, N3H5 (1 824.91 u; $P<0.01$) 为杂合型, N3H4 (1 620.81 u; $P<0.05$), N4H4 (1 865.94 u; $P<0.001$), N5H6F1S2 (3 415.70 u; $P<0.05$) 为复杂型 (图4)。

为了评估显著差异N-连接聚糖指示膀胱癌的能力, 对膀胱癌中的10种显著差异的N-连接聚糖进行了ROC曲线分析。10种显著差异N-连接聚糖的AUC除N3H5 ($AUC=0.69$) 外均大于0.7 (图5a), 表明10种显著差异的N-连接聚糖具有成为膀胱癌的标志物的潜力。进一步评估了多个N-连接糖链集合指示膀胱癌的能力, 主要选择M6-9 (N2H6、N2H7、N2H8、N2H9) 和C3-4 (N3H4、N4H4) 两类糖链集合进行ROC分析。其中C3-4集合的AUC为0.9; M6-9集合的AUC为0.73 (图5b), 表明C3-4 N-连接糖链集合可以成为尿路上皮癌潜在标志物集。

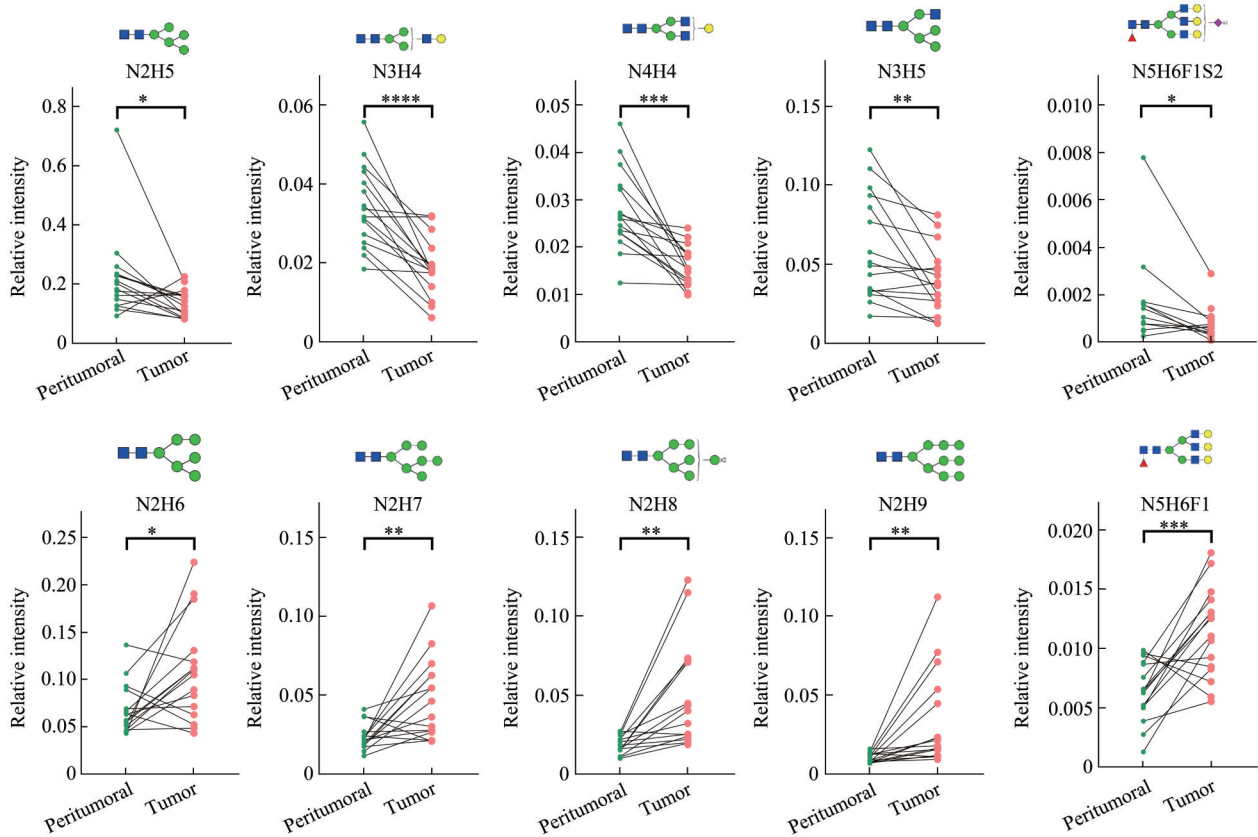


Fig. 4 Significantly different N-glycans in bladder cancer

10 N-glycans with significant differences between peritumoral and tumor tissues. * $P < 0.05$, ** $P < 0.01$, *** $P < 0.001$.

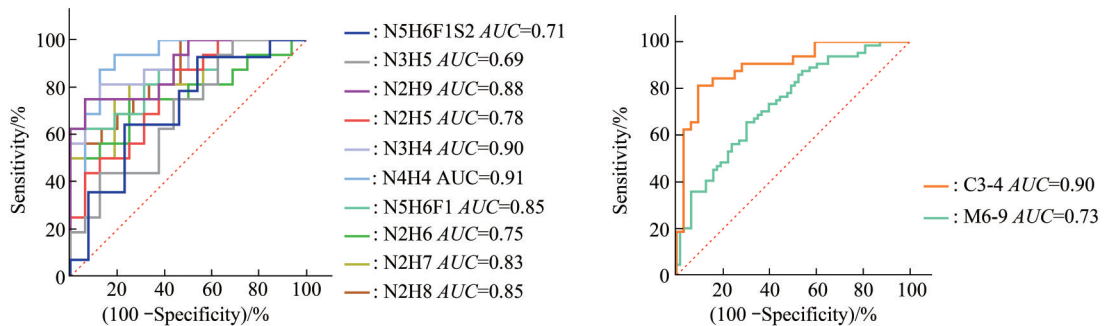


Fig. 5 ROC curves of significantly different N-glycans in bladder cancer

The receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curves of 10 kinds of N-glycans and 2 N-glycan sets.

3 讨 论

本研究建立了一种稳定性强可重复性高的基于FFPE切片N-连接聚糖分析的流程, 对16例膀胱癌患者的FFPE组织切片样本进行研究, 共鉴定出76种N-连接糖链, 涵盖了所有3种主要N-连接糖链

类型, 包括5种高甘露糖型、4种杂合型和67种复杂型。本文还发现N-连接聚糖的表征与FFPE切片的保存时间之间没有相关性, 这与探究蛋白质测定与FFPE切片保存时间相关性的结果相互印证^[25]。说明FFPE切片组织中的翻译后修饰物质不易受保存时间的影响, 表明FFPE切片是表征研究翻译后

修饰的理想材料。

基于FFPE的N-连接糖链研究结果显示,膀胱组织中N-连接糖链的相对强度与其他组织中N-连接聚糖修饰情况相似,高甘露糖型糖链为最主要的组织N-连接糖链。同时膀胱癌肿瘤组织的高甘露糖型和岩藻糖型糖链相对丰度升高,与乳腺癌、上皮卵巢癌等很多癌症的情况类似^[26-27]。本课题组前期关于正常膀胱细胞HCV29和膀胱癌细胞KK47、YTS1、J82和T24的定量糖组学研究结果显示,高甘露糖型N-连接糖链中的M6-M9在膀胱癌细胞中显著增加,与FFPE组织切片分析结果一致^[28]。此外,FFPE组织切片研究结果发现,高甘露糖型N-连接糖链N2H5在肿瘤组织中显著下降。这可能与 α -1,2甘露糖苷酶基因(*MAN1A1*)差异表达相关,在肺癌前期研究中表明,*MAN1A1*的过表达会增加M6-9高甘露糖的含量,但不会增加N2H5的含量^[29-30]。另外,在前期尿路上皮癌血清免疫球蛋白N-连接聚糖解析的研究中,N4H4等双天线型N-连接糖链在膀胱癌中显著下降,这与FFPE组织切片中N-连接糖链研究结果趋势一致^[17]。近年来,有关肿瘤及癌旁组织中差异性表达的糖链参与癌症的发生发展研究逐渐深入,其中有关MCF10A乳腺上皮细胞上皮间质化过程的研究发现,N-连接糖链的 β 1-6GlcNAc分支上调能在低细胞密度下促进细胞迁移^[31]。

总之,本文使用了一种基于FFPE切片N-连接聚糖分析方法,该方法能通过MALDI-TOF/TOF-MS分析临床FFPE组织切片的N-连接聚糖修饰水平情况,发现了一些在癌旁和肿瘤组织间修饰水平差异显著的N-连接聚糖,为N-连接聚糖在膀胱癌发生中的作用研究提供了一定的数据支持。

4 结 论

本研究表明,在膀胱癌患者的FFPE组织切片中,相较于癌旁组织,肿瘤组织中的N-连接糖链修饰表现出N-连接糖链M6-M9(高甘露糖型)以及N5H6F1(复杂糖型)修饰显著增加;N2H5(高甘露糖型)、N3H5(杂合糖型)和N3H4、N4H4、N5H6F1S2(复杂糖型)修饰显著减少的趋势。这揭示了膀胱癌肿瘤组织中存在异常的N-连接糖链修饰情况。随着研究的深入,特殊的N-连接糖链或可成为膀胱癌的癌症生物标志物。

附件 见本文网络版 (<http://www.pibb.ac.cn> 或 <http://www.cnki.net>):

PIBB_20210393_Fig S1.jpg

PIBB_20210393_Fig S2.jpg

PIBB_20210393_Fig S3.jpg

PIBB_20210393_Table S1.pdf

PIBB_20210393_Table S2.pdf

参 考 文 献

- [1] Zhang D, Yang L, Liu X, *et al.* Hypoxia modulates stem cell properties and induces EMT through N-glycosylation of EpCAM in breast cancer cells. *J Cell Physiol*, 2020, **235**(4): 3626-3633
- [2] Verdura S, Cuyàs E, Cortada E, *et al.* Resveratrol targets PD-L1 glycosylation and dimerization to enhance antitumor T-cell immunity. *Aging (Albany NY)*, 2020, **12**(1): 8-34
- [3] Tjondro H C, Loke I, Chatterjee S, *et al.* Human protein paucimannosylation: cues from the eukaryotic kingdoms. *Biol Rev Camb Philos Soc*, 2019, **94**(6): 2068-2100
- [4] Nagao-Kitamoto H, Leslie J L, Kitamoto S, *et al.* Interleukin-22-mediated host glycosylation prevents *Clostridioides difficile* infection by modulating the metabolic activity of the gut microbiota. *Nat Med*, 2020, **26**(4): 608-617
- [5] Dobrica M O, Lazar C, Branza-Nichita N. N-Glycosylation and N-Glycan processing in HBV biology and pathogenesis. *Cells*, 2020, **9**(6): 1404
- [6] Freeze H H, Baum L, Varki A. Glycans in systemic physiology// Varki A, Cummings R D, Esko J D, *et al.* *Essentials of Glycobiology*. New York: Cold Spring Harbor, 2015: 521-526
- [7] Adamczyk B, Tharmalingam T, Rudd P M. Glycans as cancer biomarkers. *Biochim Biophys Acta*, 2012, **1820**(9): 1347-1353
- [8] Zhang W, Yang Z, Gao X, *et al.* Advances in the discovery of novel biomarkers for cancer: spotlight on protein N-glycosylation. *Biomark Med*, 2020, **14**(11): 1031-1045
- [9] Zhang D, Xie Q, Wang Q, *et al.* Mass spectrometry analysis reveals aberrant N-glycans in colorectal cancer tissues. *Glycobiology*, 2019, **29**(5): 372-384
- [10] Kamat A M, Hahn N M, Efstathiou J A, *et al.* Bladder cancer. *Lancet*, 2016, **388**(10061): 2796-2810
- [11] Siegel R L, Miller K D, Jemal A. Cancer statistics, 2015. *CA Cancer J Clin*, 2015, **65**(1): 5-29
- [12] Guo J, Li X, Tan Z, *et al.* Alteration of N-glycans and expression of their related glycoenzymes in the epithelial-mesenchymal transition of HCV29 bladder epithelial cells. *Molecules*, 2014, **19**(12): 20073-20090
- [13] Belczacka I, Pejchinovski M, Krochmal M, *et al.* Urinary glycopeptide analysis for the investigation of novel biomarkers. *Proteomics Clin Appl*, 2019, **13**(3): e1800111
- [14] Yang G, Tan Z, Lu W, *et al.* Quantitative glycome analysis of N-glycan patterns in bladder cancer vs normal bladder cells using an integrated strategy. *J Proteome Res*, 2015, **14**(2): 639-653

- [15] Ferdosi S, Ho T H, Castle E P, *et al.* Behavior of blood plasma glycan features in bladder cancer. *PLoS One*, 2018, **13**(7): e0201208
- [16] Sathe G, George I A, Deb B, *et al.* Urinary glycoproteomic profiling of non-muscle invasive and muscle invasive bladder carcinoma patients reveals distinct N-glycosylation pattern of CD44, MGAM, and GINM1. *Oncotarget*, 2020, **11**(34): 3244-3255
- [17] Tanaka T, Yoneyama T, Noro D, *et al.* Aberrant N-glycosylation profile of serum immunoglobulins is a diagnostic biomarker of urothelial carcinomas. *Int J Mol Sci*, 2017, **18**(12):16428
- [18] Hinneburg H, Schirmeister F, Korać P, *et al.* N- and O-Glycomics from minor amounts of formalin-fixed, paraffin-embedded tissue samples. *Methods Mol Biol*, 2017, **1503**:131-145
- [19] Donczo B, Szigeti M, Ostoros G, *et al.* N-Glycosylation analysis of formalin fixed paraffin embedded samples by capillary electrophoresis. *Electrophoresis*, 2016, **37**(17-18): 2292-2296
- [20] Koçak Ö F, Kayili H M, Albayrak M, *et al.* N-glycan profiling of papillary thyroid carcinoma tissues by MALDI-TOF-MS. *Anal Biochem*, 2019, **584**:113389
- [21] McDowell C T, Klamer Z, Hall J, *et al.* Imaging mass spectrometry and lectin analysis of N-linked glycans in carbohydrate antigen-defined pancreatic cancer tissues. *Mol Cell Proteomics*, 2020, **20**:100012
- [22] Wang X, Deng Z, Huang C, *et al.* Differential N-glycan patterns identified in lung adenocarcinoma by N-glycan profiling of formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded (FFPE) tissue sections. *J Proteomics*, 2018, **172**:1-10
- [23] Djidja M C, Claude E, Scriven P, *et al.* Antigen retrieval prior to on-tissue digestion of formalin-fixed paraffin-embedded tumour tissue sections yields oxidation of proline residues. *Biochim Biophys Acta Proteins Proteom*, 2017, **1865**(7): 901-906
- [24] Yang L, Du X, Peng Y, *et al.* An integrated pipeline of isotopic labeling and selective enriching for quantitative analysis of N-glycome by mass spectrometry. *Anal Chem*, 2019, **91**(2): 1486-1493
- [25] Zhu Y, Weiss T, Zhang Q, *et al.* High-throughput proteomic analysis of FFPE tissue samples facilitates tumor stratification. *Mol Oncol*, 2019, **13**(11): 2305-2328
- [26] Li Q, Li G, Zhou Y, *et al.* Comprehensive N-glycome profiling of cells and tissues for breast cancer diagnosis. *J Proteome Res*, 2019, **18**(6): 2559-2570
- [27] Chen H, Deng Z, Huang C, *et al.* Mass spectrometric profiling reveals association of N-glycan patterns with epithelial ovarian cancer progression. *Tumour Biol*, 2017, **39**(7): 1010428317716249
- [28] 杨刚龙, 张甲戌, 刘昌梅, 等. 不同转移潜能膀胱癌细胞糖组相对定量分析. *生物化学与生物物理进展*, 2015, **42**(12): 11
- Yang G L, Zhang J W, Liu C M, *et al.* *Prog Biochem Biophys*, 2015, **42**(12):11
- [29] Lattová E, Skříčková J, Hausnerová J, *et al.* N-Glycan profiling of lung adenocarcinoma in patients at different stages of disease. *Mod Pathol*, 2020, **33**(6): 1146-1156
- [30] Tu H C, Hsiao Y C, Yang W Y, *et al.* Up-regulation of golgi α -mannosidase IA and down-regulation of golgi α -mannosidase IC activates unfolded protein response during hepatocarcinogenesis. *Hepatol Commun*, 2017, **1**(3): 230-247
- [31] Zu Q, Niu X, Wang W, *et al.* Specific N-glycan alterations are coupled in EMT induced by different density cultivation of MCF 10A epithelial cells. *Glycoconj J*, 2017, **34**(2):219-227

In Situ* Enzymatic Hydrolysis and Analysis of Bladder Cancer N-glycans Based on FFPE Tissue Sections

CHENG Ying^{1)**}, SUN Cheng-Wen^{2)**}, QIN Yan³⁾, SHI Shuai⁴⁾, LI Yue-Yang⁵⁾, FAN Qi-Gao⁴⁾,
YANG Gang-Long^{1)***}, GAO Xiao-Dong^{1)***}

¹⁾Key Laboratory of Carbohydrate Chemistry & Biotechnology, Ministry of Education, School of Biotechnology, Jiangnan University, Wuxi 214122, China;

²⁾Department of Urology, Jiangnan University Affiliated Hospitals, Wuxi 214028, China;

³⁾Department of Pathology, Jiangnan University Affiliated Hospitals, Wuxi 214028, China;

⁴⁾School of Internet of Things Engineering, Jiangnan University, Wuxi 214122, China;

⁵⁾School of Artificial Intelligence and Computer Science, Jiangnan University, Wuxi 214122, China)

Abstract Objective To investigate the N-linked glycans in bladder cancer FFPE tissue sections, and explore abnormal N-linked glycan modification in bladder cancer FFPE tumor tissue sections. **Methods** An experimental procedure for in situ extraction of N-linked glycans based on FFPE tissue sections was developed. FFPE tissue sections were digested by PNGase F and liberated N-linked glycans. Permethylated N-linked glycans were detected by MALDI-TOF/TOF-MS. Database matching was performed to determine possible glycoforms of N-linked glycans. The accuracy of significantly different N-linked glycans as a predictive bladder cancer biomarker was predicted by ROC analysis. **Results** The data of MALDI-TOF/TOF-MS detection of permethylated N-linked glycans showed that, in tumor and peritumoral FFPE tissue sections of 16 patients with bladder cancer, the relative intensity of N-linked glycans N2H6, N2H7, N2H8, N2H9 (high mannose) and N5H6F1 (complex) were increased significantly in the tumor tissues of bladder cancer. At the same time, N2H5 (high mannose), N3H5 (hybrid) and type N3H4, N4H4, N5H6F1S2 (complex) N-linked glycans were significantly decreased. ROC analysis showed that the biantennary N-linked glycan N3H4 ($AUC=0.90$) and N4H4 ($AUC=0.91$) were reliable in distinguishing tumor and peritumoral tissue of bladder cancer patients separately or combined together, and these N-linked glycans may become a potential biomarker for bladder cancer. **Conclusion** Abnormal N-glycosylation of proteins in bladder cancer FFPE tumor tissue, N-linked glycans N3H4 and N4H4 may be potential biomarkers of bladder cancer.

Key words N-linked glycan, bladder cancer, FFPE section, biomarker

DOI: 10.16476/j.pibb.2021.0393

* This work was supported by a grant from The National Natural Science Foundation of China (21778023).

** These authors contributed equally to this work.

*** Corresponding author.

YANG Gang-Long. Tel: 86-18706192951, E-mail: glyanglife@jiangnan.edu.cn

GAO Xiao-Dong. Tel: 86-13812055629, E-mail: xdga@jiangnan.edu.cn

Received: December 16, 2021 Accepted: February 25, 2022