



血小板源性生长因子C：脏器纤维化治疗的新兴靶点*

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摘要 脏器纤维化是一种严重的不可逆病理生理过程, 尤其在肝、肾、肺、心等关键脏器中表现尤为显著。因其病因及复杂的发病机制尚未完全明确, 给该疾病的诊治和预防带来了巨大的挑战。血小板源性生长因子C (platelet-derived growth factor-C, PDGF-C) 是由多种细胞分泌的促有丝分裂因子, 可通过自分泌或旁分泌途径, 在生物体内发挥关键的生物学效应。PDGF-C能够激活上皮细胞、内皮细胞、免疫细胞以及成纤维细胞, 诱导其在纤维化进程中进行增殖与迁移, 促进细胞外基质成分的过度沉积, 共同调控纤维化的发生发展。此外, PDGF-C还可与PDGF受体 (PDGFR) 特异性结合, 进而激活JAK/STAT、PI3K/AKT、Ras-MAPK等多种信号转导途径, 进一步加速纤维化进程。多项研究表明, 在脏器纤维化进程中, PDGF-C因表达量呈现上调趋势的特点, 有望成为治疗脏器纤维化疾病的潜在新兴靶点。本文综述了PDGF-C的结构功能、表达调控及其在脏器纤维化中的作用机制, 同时探讨了靶向PDGF-C/PDGFR通路抑制剂的研发与应用前景, 旨在为脏器纤维化的诊治及新药开发提供新的策略, 促进相关领域的研究发展与思考。

关键词 血小板源性生长因子C, 脏器纤维化, 细胞外基质, 成纤维细胞

中图分类号 R575, R692, R563

DOI: 10.16476/j.pibb.2024.0463

CSTR: 32369.14.pibb.20240463

纤维化是机体在应对组织损伤时所形成的一种修复性反应, 本质上并非独立疾病的范畴。然而, 由于慢性炎症长期迁延不愈, 导致该修复性反应失调, 使组织中细胞外基质 (extracellular matrix, ECM) 异常增加和过度沉积, 进而导致组织结构破坏、脏器功能障碍并最终导致脏器衰竭^[1]。衰老、炎症反应、表观遗传调控以及外来微生物入侵都会影响机体伤口组织的愈合修复。纤维化是多种组织与器官共有的病理过程^[2-3], 特别在肝、肾、肺、心等关键脏器尤为突出。在欧美等发达国家, 脏器纤维化致死率接近 50%^[4]。近年来, 针对分子靶点的创新性研究在推动脏器纤维化治疗中起着关键作用。

血小板源性生长因子 C (platelet-derived growth factor-C, PDGF-C) 是一种由多种细胞产生、并通过自分泌或旁分泌的形式发挥作用的生长因子, 也被认为是间充质来源细胞 (如成纤维细

胞、平滑肌细胞等) 的活性有丝分裂促进因子, 在细胞增殖、血管生成、造血干细胞调控、伤口愈合、组织重塑、纤维化等多种生物过程中发挥重要作用^[5]。研究发现, PDGF-C在脏器纤维化中表达量明显上调, 其表达量与纤维化进展之间呈正相关^[6-7]。因此, 挖掘PDGF-C在脏器纤维化中的作用, 对疾病早期诊断、机制探究及靶向治疗研究领

* 国家自然科学基金 (82074148), 国家级大学生创新创业训练计划 (202311230035), 齐齐哈尔医学科学院重点培育项目 (2024-ZDPY-002), 齐齐哈尔医学科学院青年博士项目 (QMSI2022B-03, QMSI2023E-02), 黑龙江省博士后资助项目 (LBH-Z24305), 黑龙江省自然科学基金 (LH2021H120), 黑龙江省大学生创新创业训练计划 (S202411230014) 和齐齐哈尔医学院重点学科建设项目 (QYZDXK-005, 人体生理与病理生理学) 资助。

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收稿日期: 2024-11-07, 接受日期: 2025-02-21

域至关重要。本文就PDGF-C的结构功能、表达调控及在脏器纤维化发生发展中的作用机制展开综述，以期为诊断与治疗脏器纤维化及新药研发提供新的策略与思考。

1 PDGF-C

1.1 PDGF-C的结构

PDGF-C是PDGFs家族4大亚型(PDGFA/B/C/D)之一^[8]，PDGF-A和PDGF-B的蛋白质结构相对简单，只在C端具有一个高度保守的生长因子核心(growth factor core, GFC)结构域。PDGF-C于PDGF-A和PDGF-B被鉴定大约20年后的2000年被首次发现^[9]。PDGF-C基因定位于人类4号染色体q31-q32区域，包含6个外显子，编码由345

个氨基酸构成的约36.7 ku的蛋白质^[10]。PDGF-C与PDGF-D都含有两个结构域，即N端结构上特有的CUB(C1r/C1s、Uegf、Bmp1)结构域和C端的GFC结构域^[11](图1a)。不同于PDGF-A和PDGF-B，PDGF-C与PDGF-D最初以潜在的非活性二聚体形式在细胞内合成，随后被分泌到ECM中。其前结构域中的铰链区与N端特有的CUB结构域需要在组织型纤溶酶原激活剂(tissue plasminogen activator, tPA)、尿激酶型纤溶酶原激活剂(urokinase plasminogen activator, uPA)、马曲酶和纤溶酶的作用下被水解切割，暴露的GFC结构域通过二硫键形成具有活性的同源二聚体PDGF-CC，同时激活PDGF受体(PDGF receptors, PDGFRs)，发挥其生物活性^[12](图1b, c)。

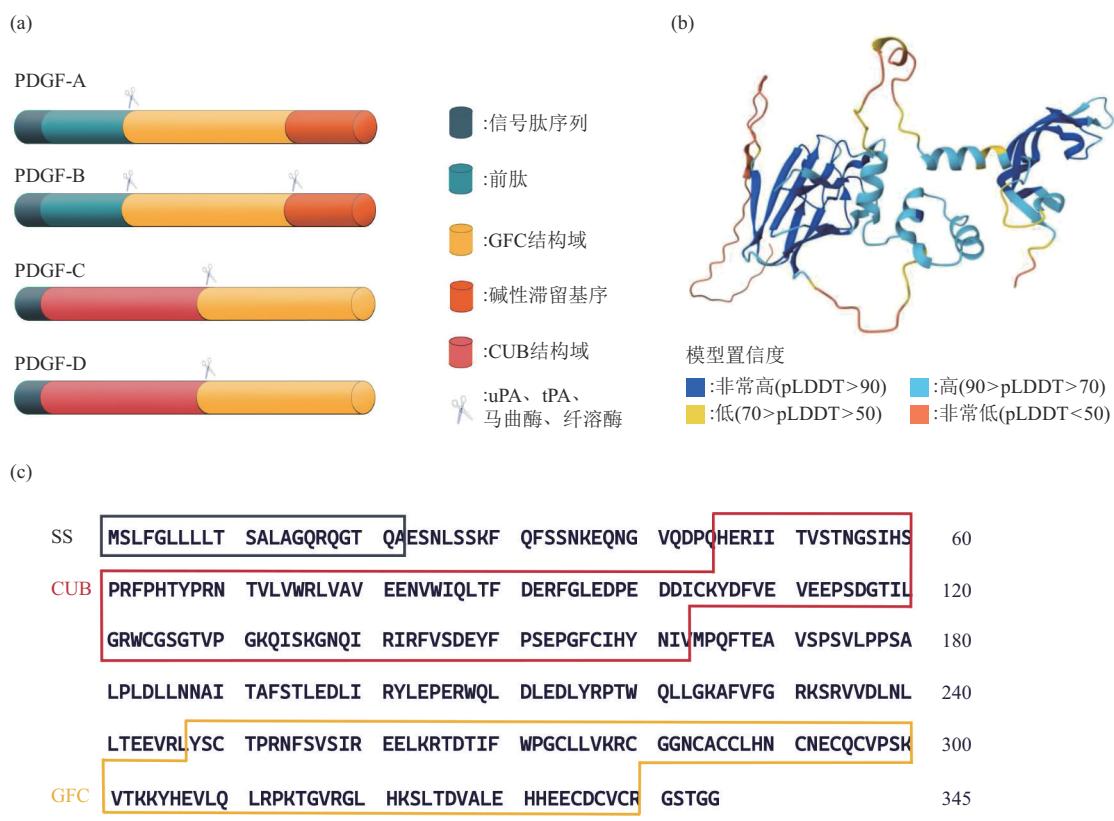


Fig. 1 Schematic representation of PDGFs' structure

图1 PDGFs结构示意图

(a) PDGFs家族成员二级结构图；(b) PDGF-C三级结构预测图(AlphaFold预测)；(c) 人源PDGF-C氨基酸序列。PDGF：血小板源性生长因子(platelet-derived growth factor)；SS：信号肽序列(signal sequence)；CUB：补体亚成分C1r/C1s、海胆表皮生长因子样蛋白和骨形态发生蛋白1(complement subcomponents C1r/C1s, urchin EGF-like protein and bone morphogenetic protein 1)；GFC：生长因子核心(growth factor core)；uPA：尿激酶型纤溶酶原激活剂(urokinase plasminogen activator)；tPA：组织型纤溶酶原激活剂(tissue plasminogen activator)。

1.2 PDGF-C的功能

PDGF-C的CUB结构域展现出显著的促有丝分裂活性^[13]，这表明，通过抑制或增强含有CUB结构域的PDGF-C蛋白质分子的活性，可以调控细胞

的增殖过程，参与纤维化进程中ECM的异常积累和组织的重塑，这一特点可作为组织损伤、脏器纤维化等疾病的潜在治疗靶点。GFC结构域与PDGFRs结合，PDGFRs是酪氨酸激酶第3家族的

一种单链跨膜糖蛋白, 可促进细胞趋化性、分裂和增殖, 在血管生成和伤口修复、纤维化等生理过程中发挥重要作用^[14]。PDGF-AA/AB/BB/CC能够结合并激活同源二聚体PDGFR $\alpha\alpha$, 而PDGF-BB和PDGF-DD则结合并激活同源二聚体PDGFR $\beta\beta$ 。此外, PDGF-AB/BB/CC/DD还能结合并激活异源二聚体PDGFR $\alpha\beta$ 。这种PDGFs的结合作用会导致PDGFRs的亚基受体发生二聚化, 并引发反式自磷酸化进程^[15], 从而进一步诱导受体胞内结构域中的酪氨酸残基发生磷酸化^[16]。磷酸化的PDGFRs募集相互作用分子, 激活下游磷脂酶C γ (phospholipase C γ , PLC γ)、Janus激酶(JAK) /信号转导和翻译激活因子(signal transducer and activator of transcription, STAT)、磷脂酰肌醇3激酶(phosphatidylinositol 3-kinase, PI3K) /蛋白激酶B(protein kinase B, AKT)、Ras-丝裂原活化蛋白激酶(Ras-mitogen-activated protein kinase, Ras-MAPK)等信号通路, 调节细胞增殖、迁移、分化与凋亡、参与血管生成、纤维化等生物学进程^[17]。

2 PDGF-C的表达调控

2.1 转录水平调控

转录水平调控是基因表达调控过程中的关键环节, PDGF-C的转录活性受表观遗传修饰与转录因子的协同调控。

2.1.1 表观遗传修饰对转录的调控

组蛋白乙酰化作为一种重要的调控信号, 能够促进染色质结构的松弛, 使得转录因子更容易接近DNA并启动转录过程, 进而影响了基因的转录水平。P300作为组蛋白H3上第27位赖氨酸残基(H3K27)乙酰转移酶的一种, Shi等^[18]通过使用P300催化H3K27乙酰化修饰发现, 该修饰能够显著上调PDGF-C mRNA的表达。然而, 应用一种靶向P300的组蛋白乙酰转移酶抑制剂(C646)以及特异性敲减P300的方法, 均可显著降低PDGF-C mRNA和蛋白质的表达水平。提示PDGF-C的表观遗传调控可能由H3K27的乙酰化所介导, 其可通过改变染色质的结构和功能, 从而间接调控PDGF-C基因的转录水平。

2.1.2 转录因子对转录的调控

早期生长反应因子1(early growth response 1, EGR-1)、碳水化合物反应元件结合蛋白(carbohydrate response element binding protein,

ChREBP)、特异性蛋白1等被认为是PDGF-C启动子区域的识别元件^[19]。研究表明, EGR-1被胞外信号调节激酶激活后, 可结合到PDGF-C基因的启动子区域, 从而上调PDGF-C的转录表达^[20]。Kitsunai等^[21]发现, PDGF-C基因在转录起始位点上游约1.5 kb处携带顺式对齐的ChREBP结合位点, 并在小鼠PDGF-C基因的第一个内含子中也发现了ChREBP结合序列, 这种跨物种的保守性可为ChREBP在PDGF-C基因转录调控中的关键作用提供有力的证据, 也为探究脏器纤维化的发生机制和开发潜在的治疗策略提供了新的思路与视角。

2.2 转录后水平调控

N6-甲基腺苷(m⁶A)是真核生物mRNA修饰的新兴调节因子。作为一种关键的表观遗传修饰, m⁶A主要在转录后水平发挥作用。通过调控mRNA的稳定性、翻译效率及其与其他分子的相互作用, 间接控制特定蛋白质的表达水平。脂肪质量和肥胖相关蛋白(fat mass and obesity-associated protein, FTO)是一种去甲基化酶。Tan等^[22]发现, 下调FTO可导致PDGF-C的3'非翻译区(3'UTR)中mRNA的m⁶A修饰增加, 同时招募YT521-B同源结构域家族蛋白2(YT521 B homology domain family protein 2, YTHDF2)与PDGF-C mRNA结合, 读取PDGF-C mRNA的m⁶A修饰水平, 促进PDGF-C mRNA的降解。研究发现, 微RNA(microRNA, miRNA)中的miR-1264^[23]、miR-29a^[24]、miR-29b^[25]、miR-375^[26]可以调控PDGF-C mRNA表达, 在转录后水平调控中起着关键作用。此外, mRNA剪接也是转录后调控的重要环节。PDGF-Cb作为PDGF-C的一个剪接变体, 由外显子2a插入到PDGF-C的mRNA序列中而产生, 是一种缺乏信号肽和CUB结构域的特殊胞内蛋白。PDGF-Cb与PDGF-C在胞内形成异源二聚体, 进而对PDGF-C的分泌产生影响, 反向调节PDGF-C的分泌量, 使其维持在细胞内的适当浓度。该发现为减轻纤维化形成、恢复组织重塑及开发针对PDGF-Cb的靶向药物提供潜在的可能^[27]。

2.3 翻译后修饰调控

小分子泛素相关修饰物蛋白(small ubiquitin-like modifier protein, SUMO)化是一种重要的蛋白质翻译后修饰方式, SUMO作为一类小分子蛋白质修饰物, 通过与靶蛋白的特定赖氨酸残基共价结合来调节蛋白质的功能、稳定及亚细胞定位^[28]。Reigstad等^[29]发现, PDGF-C表面存在一个带正电

的由特定氨基酸序列 (RPKTGVRGLHK) 组成的肽链段, 该关键位点可被SUMO-1所修饰, 提示该序列与SUMO-1的共价连接, 可使PDGF-C蛋白SUMO化, 上调PDGF-C蛋白的稳定性。天冬酰胺(asparagine, Asn)是蛋白质中常见的糖基化位点之一, Hu等^[30]在PDGF-C蛋白中发现CUB结构域的Asn25、Asn55和同源结构域的Asn254存在3

个糖基化修饰位点, 其中Asn254位点的糖基化修饰对于PDGF-C蛋白的激活、PDGFRs的信号分子活性传导至关重要。这提示, 开发能够调节Asn254位点糖基化修饰的化合物, 有望实现对PDGF-C/PDGFR通路的精准调控, 从而阻断或削弱纤纤维化进程(图2)。

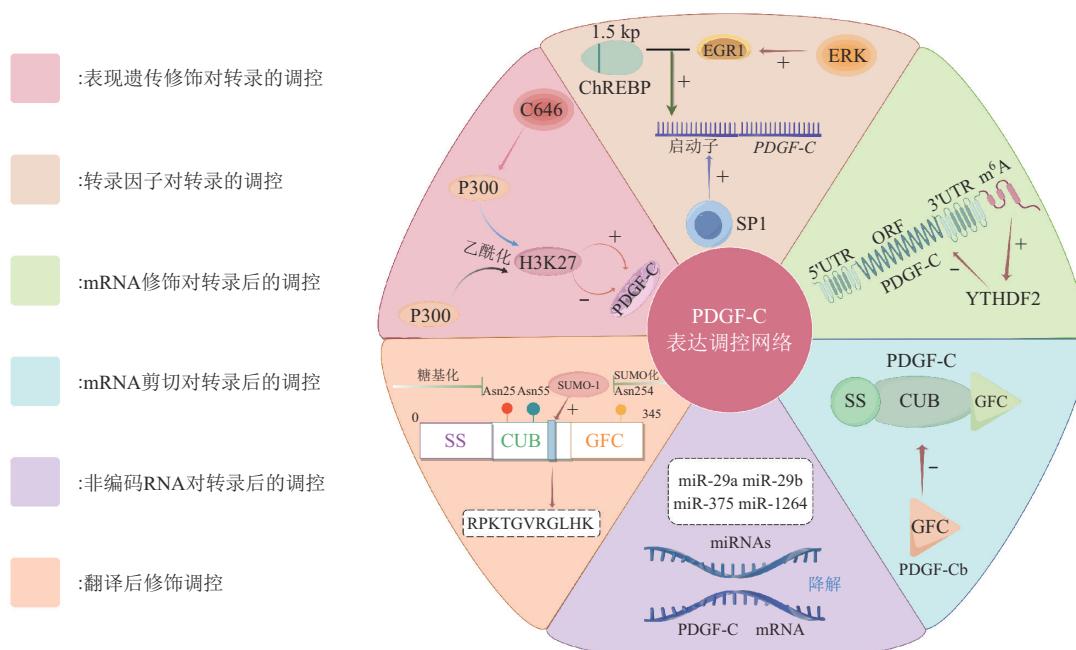


Fig. 2 Molecular mechanisms regulating PDGF-C expression (created with Figdraw)

图2 PDGF-C表达调控的分子机制 (本图由Figdraw绘制)

Asn: 天冬酰胺(asparagine); SUMO: 小泛素样修饰蛋白 (small ubiquitin-like modifier); kp: 千碱基对(kilobase pairs); miRNAs: 微RNA; H3K27: 组蛋白H3第27位赖氨酸(histone H3 lysine 27); C646: 化合物C646 (compound C646); P300: E1A结合蛋白p300 (E1A binding protein p300); ChREBP: 碳水化合物反应元件结合蛋白(carbohydrate response element binding protein); EGR1: 早期生长反应蛋白1 (early growth response protein 1); ERK: 细胞外信号调节激酶(extracellular signal-regulated kinase); YTHDF2: YTH结构域家族蛋白2 (YTH domain family protein 2); SP1: 特异性蛋白1 (specificity protein 1); ORF: 开放阅读框(open reading frame); 5'UTR/3'UTR: 5'非翻译区/3'非翻译区 (5' untranslated region/3' untranslated region); SS: 信号肽序列 (signal sequence); CUB: 补体亚成分Clr/C1s、海胆表皮生长因子样蛋白和骨形态发生蛋白1 (complement subcomponents Clr/C1s, urchin EGF-like protein and bone morphogenetic protein 1); GFC: 生长因子核心 (growth factor core)

3 PDGF-C对脏器纤维化的影响

纤维化作为生物体的一种自我保护机制, 是长期自然选择和进化的结果。研究已证实, 上皮细胞、内皮细胞、免疫细胞以及成纤维细胞在纤维化过程中扮演着关键角色^[31]。这些细胞通过分泌细胞因子等信号分子, 相互交织并形成一个复杂的网络, 共同调控纤维化的发生发展。这种机制的激活是针对急性事件(如创伤、感染)及慢性疾病(如高血压、糖尿病)长期作用下的受损组织的修复和

重塑, 促使疤痕组织形成, 保护并阻止受损区域进一步的损伤。然而, 急性与慢性损伤后的纤维化在诸多方面存在显著差异。急性损伤后触发的纤维化过程往往与特定的伤口紧密相关, 旨在迅速促进伤口愈合并提供必要的组织支架。尽管该过程中可能会形成不完全再生的疤痕组织, 但随着伤口的愈合, 纤维化进程通常会逐渐减缓并最终停止。相比之下, 慢性损伤所引发的纤维化往往会导致一种病理性的弥漫性间质组织纤维化, 这种纤维化会破坏正常的组织结构, 对器官功能产生不良影响, 并可能加速疾病的进展^[32]。此外, 慢性损伤诱导的纤

化还可发展为一个自主进展过程, 该过程不依赖于原始损伤自身的表观遗传调控, 即使潜在损伤已停止, 纤维化仍可能持续或进一步恶化。在治疗策略上, 急性损伤后的纤维化治疗更侧重于促进伤口快速愈合和减少疤痕形成, 而对慢性损伤后的纤维化治疗重点通常在于控制纤维化的进展, 旨在改善受损脏器功能并延缓疾病的恶化。

3.1 PDGF-C与肝纤维化

肝纤维化 (hepatic fibrosis, HF) 在慢性肝病发展为肝硬化的终末阶段中起着关键作用。其特征是在多种致病因素的影响下ECM在肝脏中过度沉积。此外HF的发展还涉及肝星状细胞 (hematopoietic stem cells, HSCs) 的激活, 激活的HSCs大量合成并分泌ECM成分, 进一步刺激HSCs自身和其他肝脏细胞的转分化, 形成一个正反馈循环^[33]。质膜囊泡相关蛋白内皮细胞和非典型趋化因子受体1内皮细胞是在肝硬化晚期患者的肝脏组织中发现的两种新型内皮细胞亚型, 可调节白细胞的迁移与浸润, 与HSCs等发生相互作用, 协同促进HF的进展^[34]。研究表明, 在HF晚期, PDGF-C和PDGF-D水平在HSCs转分化为肌成纤维细胞的过程中持续上调, 提示这些PDGF亚型可作为在HF晚期临床诊断和治疗的关键靶点^[35]。然而, 一项临床随机对照实验发现, 慢性肝硬化晚期患者血清中PDGF-C和血小板计数均呈下调趋势, 提示血小板是慢性肝硬化中PDGF-C激活HSCs的主要来源, 在慢性肝病中通过激活HSCs进而推动HF的发生发展^[36]。

3.2 PDGF-C与肾纤维化

肾纤维化是在多种病理因素诱导下的ECM合成和降解失衡, 进而引发肾小球硬化、肾小管间质纤维化、肾小血管透明化和硬化, 被认为是各类型慢性肾病进展至终末期肾功能衰竭的最终途径。其中, 肾间质纤维化 (renal interstitial fibrosis, RIF) 是慢性肾病病理改变的核心特征, 与纤维化进展的速度和肾衰的预后密切相关^[37,38]。有学者发现, 肾脏PDGFR β 阳性的周细胞能够合成和分泌多种胞内补体蛋白, 并促进胶原蛋白和ECM的表达^[39]。该机制有助于维持肾脏的稳态与构造完整性, 但在病理条件下也可促进RIF的发生和发展。PDGF-C在肾小球上皮细胞、肾小管上皮细胞以及动脉内皮细胞等区域广泛表达。在单侧输尿管梗阻的RIF小鼠模型中, 抑制PDGF-C的表达可显著减少RIF小鼠的肾脏炎症反应及RIF进程^[40]。Li等^[41]发现,

茯苓新酸A通过PDGF-C/PDGFR α 、Smad3/MAPK信号通路抑制转化生长因子 β 1 (transforming growth factor- β 1, TGF- β 1) 诱导的肾成纤维细胞ECM积累、增殖与纤维化形成。此外, PDGF-C可以阻断茯苓新酸A对TGF- β 1诱导的肾成纤维细胞的影响, 并诱导Smad3/MAPK通路的激活, 提示PDGF-C可作为RIF分子治疗的潜在靶点。

3.3 PDGF-C与肺纤维化

肺纤维化 (pulmonary fibrosis, PF) 是一种复杂且严重的进行性间质性肺疾病, 可导致肺实质瘢痕形成, 进而影响肺的结构和功能。它是一种不可逆的肺功能损伤, 与上皮细胞损伤、免疫细胞和炎性细胞因子大量积聚以及ECM的不规则募集有关^[42]。Axin2 AT2细胞是肺组织中新发现的一种上皮细胞亚群, 同时具有祖细胞与上皮细胞的特性, 参与肺泡的修复与再生^[43]。此外, 成纤维细胞的分化途径在正常肺组织与PF之间存在显著差异^[44]。PF期间的间充质干细胞会分化为脂成纤维细胞和COL14A1基质成纤维细胞, 后者随后进一步分化为肌成纤维细胞和COL13A1基质成纤维细胞, 促进PF进展。在人肺中, PDGF-C主要在成纤维细胞和髓系细胞中表达, 少数由上皮细胞表达^[45]。研究发现, PDGF-C mRNA表达水平在纤维化肺组织中显著上调, 其可与PDGF α 受体结合, PDGF α 自磷酸化后激活下游多种信号分子, 进而调控PF进展^[46]。此外, Turrell等^[47]发现, 在老年小鼠的肺成纤维细胞中, PDGF-C的表达水平显著高于年轻小鼠, 提示PDGF-C与老化的微环境之间存在着密切的联系, 通过抑制PDGF-C的表达或阻断其信号通路, 可以减缓PF在老化微环境中的进展。

3.4 PDGF-C与心肌纤维化

心肌纤维化 (myocardial fibrosis, MF) 又称心肌钙化, 是各种心血管疾病常见的临床转归, 心肌梗死会造成心肌细胞的大面积凋亡, 进而触发剧烈的炎症反应。在此过程中, 受损的心肌组织区域会逐渐被ECM替代与重构。此外, 高血压导致的长期压力负荷过重不仅改变心脏的正常结构, 促使心脏发生显著的纤维化病变, 还可能加剧心室腔的扩张, 并诱致舒张性与收缩性心力衰竭的并发出现^[48]。心脏成纤维细胞被激活并大量增殖成肌成纤维细胞, ECM的过度沉积与异常分布是MF的主要特征^[49]。研究证实, PDGF家族的成员可能对心脏纤维化的发生发展至关重要。在使用腺病毒作

为载体转基因表达 *PDGF-A/B/C/D* 后，发现 PDGF-A 和 PDGF-C 过表达诱发心肌出现弥漫性纤维化，PDGF-B 和 PDGF-D 在心肌间质等部位过表达诱发了局部血管纤维化^[50]。在 *PDGF-C* 转基因小鼠中，PDGF-C 表达显著上调，PDGFRs 自磷酸化增强且 mRNA 水平是正常的 3 倍，诱发了心脏肥大与 MF 的发生^[51]。提示 PDGFs/PDGFRs 系统在 MF 发生发展中至关重要，抑制 PDGFRs 胞内结构域内的酪氨酸磷酸化，可有效阻断 MF 进程。

3.5 PDGF-C与其他纤维化

肿瘤纤维化，又称间质增生，是肿瘤生长和转移过程中的一种常见病理现象，常发生于黑色素瘤、乳腺癌、肝癌等实体瘤以及骨髓纤维化等其他类型的肿瘤中^[52]。研究发现，PDGF-C 可以下调神经纤毛蛋白 1 (neuropilin-1, NRP-1) 的表达，抑制肿瘤血管生成、侵袭及转移等多个过程^[53]。这提示阻断 PDGF-C/NRP-1 途径，可有助于抑制肿瘤纤维化的进程，进而减少间质增生及耐药性的产生。可作为耐药性黑色素瘤的一种新型治疗方法，亦可对其他类型的肿瘤纤维化治疗提供启示。皮肤纤维化是指皮肤组织中 ECM 过度沉积与重塑，导致皮肤变厚、硬化和失去弹性的不可逆过程^[54]。Monika 等^[55]发现，PDGF-C 可上调基质金属蛋白酶及其组织抑制剂等纤维化生成调控基因，诱导人真皮成纤维细胞的促有丝分裂和迁移活性。Lu 等^[56]用 10 Gy 照射剂量诱导 *PDGF-C* 基因编辑小鼠发生肠纤维化，发现 *PDGF-C*^{-/-} 小鼠肠纤维化发病率远低于 *PDGF-C*^{+/+} 小鼠。同时，在放射直肠病小鼠模型及患者组织活检中发现，PDGF-C 通过上调转录因子 ETS 变体 1 (ETS variant 1, ETV1) 激活 C-X-C 基序趋化因子受体 4 (C-X-C motif chemokine receptor 4, CXCR4)，同时激活 PDGFRs，共同诱发结直肠组织的炎症和纤维化发生 (图 3)。

4 PDGF-C/PDGFR 抑制剂

在 PDGF-C 功能研究与临床药理学评估中，依据化学结构的不同，用于阻断 PDGF-C/PDGFR 的信号通路抑制剂被主要归为酪氨酸激酶抑制剂、单克隆抗体、小分子化合物 3 种类型。

伊马替尼是 PDGFR α 、PDGFR β 、慢性髓性白血病标志基因 *Bcr-Abl* 等非特异性酪氨酸激酶的抑制剂。在硬皮病皮肤纤维化、慢性髓性白血病骨髓纤维化等早期临床 I/II 期试验中效果显著^[57]。另

外，在 HF 小鼠中，使用伊马替尼可促进其腔室和组织水平重塑，促进心肌修复、改善心肌灌注和营养供应、延缓纤维化进展^[58]。塞拉替尼是一种 PDGFR/CSF1R/c-KIT 抑制剂，相较于伊马替尼，在 II 期临床试验中已展现出更高的药理活性和更少的全身毒副作用，特别在针对 PDGFR β 方面表现出更高的效能^[59]。在针对 PDGFR α 方面，奥拉单抗是一种针对 PDGFR α 的最新靶向单克隆抗体，可减少 ECM 沉积，并已在 III 期临床试验中展现出显著的抗肿瘤效果^[60]。有学者发现，该物质还能够有效抑制 HSCs 的增殖与迁移，并通过调节 Erk1/2、AKT/mTOR 等多种信号转导途径来发挥其抗纤维化作用^[61]。然而值得注意的是，它并未改变纤维化相关促进基因的表达水平。

Ch6B3 是目前唯一靶向 PDGF-C 的单克隆抗体，中和 PDGF-CC 诱导的 PDGFR α 激活，其可特异性识别 PDGF-C，但不与任何其他 PDGFs 配体结合，阻断 PDGFR α 自磷酸化，进而影响纤维化发展^[62]。Ch6B3 在临床前毒理学短期和长期实验中均未表现出明显的全身或器官病理损伤或副作用，有望成为脏器纤维化疾病在体内潜在治疗的靶向药物。

Peretinoin 是一种具有类维生素 A 结构的肺环状小分子化合物^[63]。其可抑制 *PDGF-C* 转基因小鼠体内 Wnt/ β -catenin 信号通路的异常上调，并有效阻止 HF 的形成。在体外，Peretinoin 被证实能够抑制原代小鼠肝星状细胞及成纤维细胞等细胞中 PDGFRs 的表达^[64]。

5 总结与展望

诸多实验证实，PDGF-C 在脏器纤维化中广泛表达，并且可与 PDGFRs 特异性结合，触发一系列下游信号通路，激活成纤维细胞，促进其增殖与分化，使 ECM 过量沉积与错乱分布，加速纤维化进程。PDGF-C 可作为脏器纤维化临床诊断和治疗的生物分子标志物。然而，在对 PDGF-C 的研究中仍面临诸多亟待解决的障碍与挑战。**a.** 脏器纤维化发生机制多样性与复杂性并存，在 PDGF-C 的活性调控、PDGF-C/PDGFR 及下游相关信号通路的激活等基础层面有待进一步研究。**b.** PDGF-C 的抑制剂药物研发虽已聚焦于酪氨酸激酶领域并进入临床试验阶段，然而，由于缺乏针对 PDGF-C 的特异性及存在较大的毒副作用，其在临床上的应用与推广受到了一定程度的限制。**c.** 靶向 PDGF-C 的单克隆抗

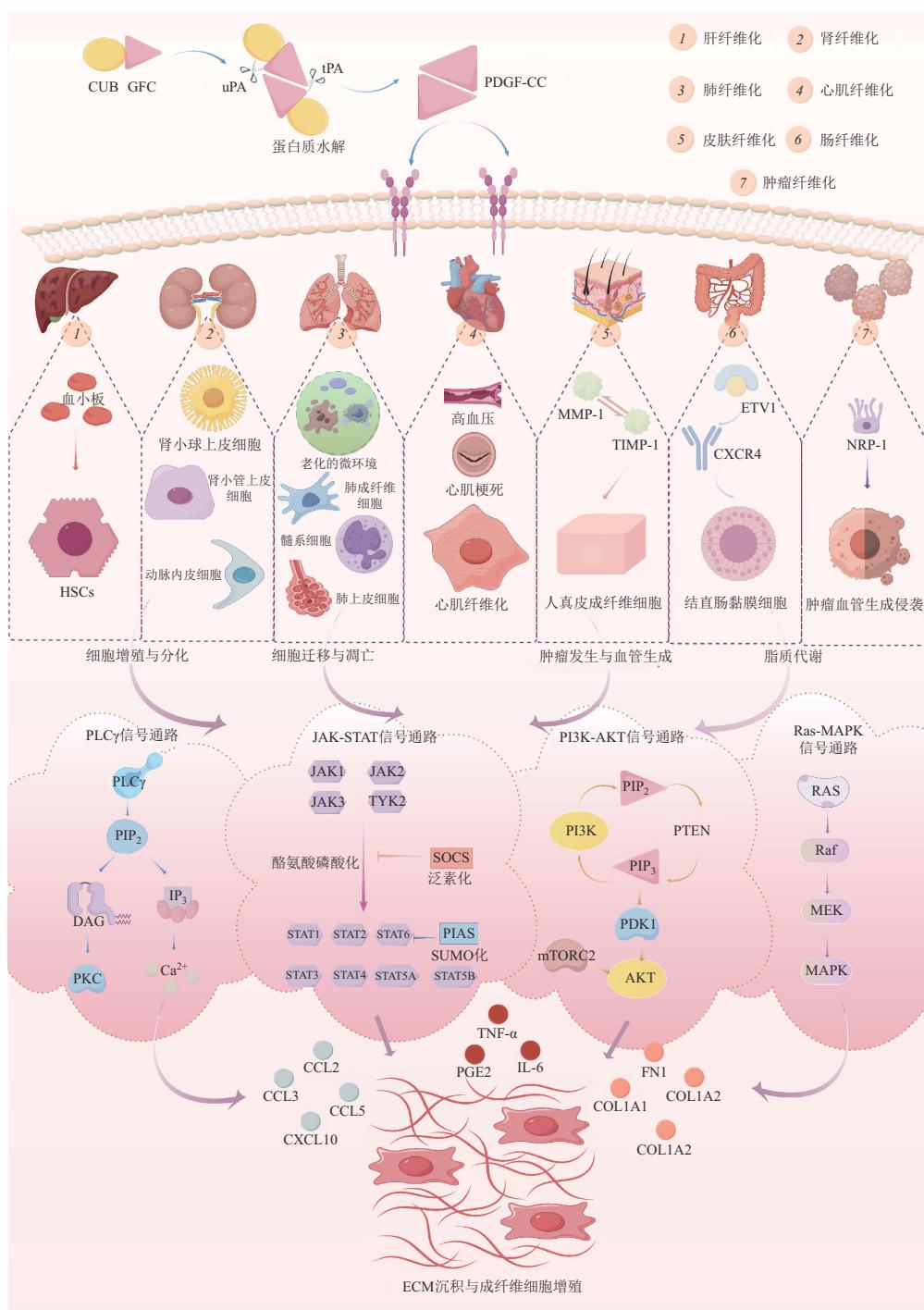


Fig. 3 Targets and related signal pathways of PDGF-C in organ fibrosis diseases (created with Figdraw)
图3 PDGF-C在脏器纤维化疾病中的作用及相关信号通路 (本图由Figdraw绘制)

MMP-1: 基质金属蛋白酶1; TIMP-1: 组织金属蛋白酶抑制剂1; PLC γ : 磷脂酶C γ ; PIP₂: 磷脂酰肌醇4,5-二磷酸; DAG: 二酰甘油; IP₃: 肌醇三磷酸; PKC: 蛋白激酶C; JAK1: 蛋白酪氨酸激酶1; JAK2: 蛋白酪氨酸激酶2; JAK3: 蛋白酪氨酸激酶3; TYK2: 酪氨酸激酶2; SOCS: 细胞因子信号传导抑制蛋白; STAT1: 信号传导子与转录激活因子1; STAT2: 信号传导子与转录激活因子2; STAT3: 信号传导子与转录激活因子3; STAT4: 信号传导子与转录激活因子4; STAT5A: 信号传导子与转录激活因子5A; STAT5B: 信号传导子与转录激活因子5B; STAT6: 信号传导子与转录激活因子6; PIAS: 活化STAT蛋白抑制蛋白; PI3K: 磷脂酰肌醇3激酶; PTEN: 磷酸酶和张力蛋白同源物; PIP₃: 磷脂酰肌醇3,4,5-三磷酸; mTORC2: 雷帕霉素靶蛋白复合物2; AKT: 丝氨酸/苏氨酸蛋白激酶; RAS: 大鼠肉瘤蛋白; Raf: 丝氨酸-苏氨酸蛋白激酶; MEK: 丝裂原活化蛋白激酶激酶; MAPK: 丝裂原活化蛋白激酶; CCL2: C-C趋化因子配体2; CCL3: C-C趋化因子配体3; CCL5: C-C趋化因子配体5; CXCL10: C-X-C趋化因子配体10; FN1: 纤维连接蛋白1; COL1A1: I型胶原蛋白 α 1链; COL1A2: I型胶原蛋白 α 2链; COL3A1: III型胶原蛋白 α 1链; PGE2: 前列腺素E2; TNF- α : 肿瘤坏死因子 α ; IL-6: 白介素-6。CUB: 补体亚成分C1r/C1s、海胆表皮生长因子样蛋白和骨形态发生蛋白1; GFC: 生长因子核心; uPA: 尿激酶型纤溶酶原激活剂; tPA: 组织型纤溶酶原激活剂。

体展示出良好的治疗预期，但是相关研究仍处于起步阶段。综上，PDGF-C在脏器纤维化形成与发展过程中作用及机制的研究具有广阔的前景，研发更多新药干预PDGF-C的蛋白质表达可以作为未来脏器纤维化治疗的新方向，对纤维化治疗领域意义重大。

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PDGF-C: an Emerging Target in The Treatment of Organ Fibrosis*

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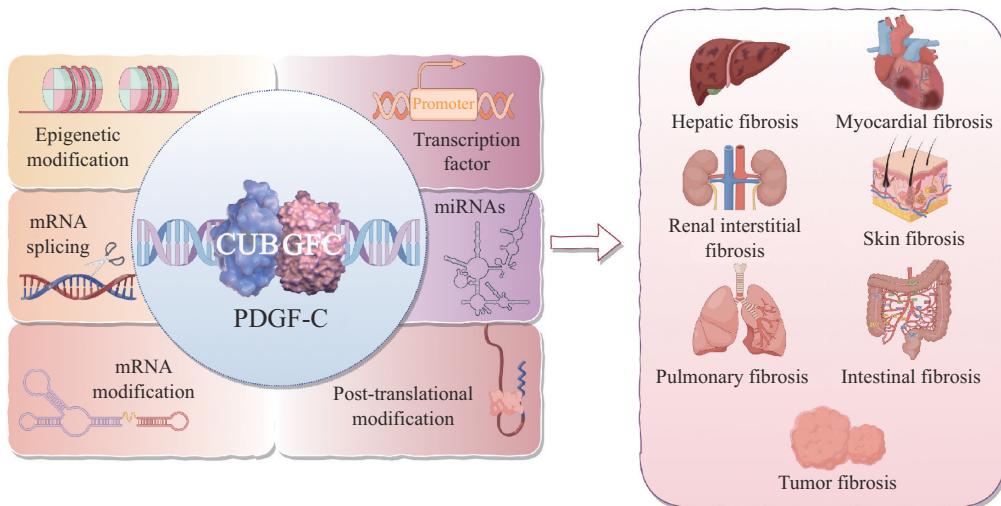
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Graphical abstract



Abstract Fibrosis, the pathological scarring of vital organs, is a severe and often irreversible condition that leads to progressive organ dysfunction. It is particularly pronounced in organs like the liver, kidneys, lungs, and heart. Despite its clinical significance, the full understanding of its etiology and complex pathogenesis remains

* This work was supported by grants from The National Natural Science Foundation of China (82074148), National College Students' Innovation and Entrepreneurship Training Program (202311230035), Key Cultivation Project of Qiqihar Academy of Medical Sciences (2024-ZDPY-002), Young Doctor Project of Qiqihar Academy of Medical Sciences (QMSI2022B-03, QMSI2023E-02), Heilongjiang Province Postdoctoral Funding (LBH-Z24305), Natural Science Foundation of Heilongjiang Province (LH2021H120), Heilongjiang Province College Students' Innovation and Entrepreneurship Training Program (S202411230014), and Construction Project of Dominant Characteristic Disciplines of Qiqihar Medical University (QYZDXK-005, Human physiology and pathophysiology).

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Received: November 7, 2024 Accepted: February 21, 2025

incomplete, posing substantial challenges to diagnosing, treating, and preventing the progression of fibrosis. Among the various molecular players involved, platelet-derived growth factor-C (PDGF-C) has emerged as a crucial factor in fibrotic diseases, contributing to the pathological transformation of tissues in several key organs. PDGF-C is a member of the PDGFs family of growth factors and is synthesized and secreted by various cell types, including fibroblasts, smooth muscle cells, and endothelial cells. It acts through both autocrine and paracrine mechanisms, exerting its biological effects by binding to and activating the PDGF receptors (PDGFRs), specifically PDGFR α and PDGFR β . This binding triggers multiple intracellular signaling pathways, such as JAK/STAT, PI3K/AKT and Ras-MAPK pathways, which are integral to the regulation of cell proliferation, survival, migration, and fibrosis. Notably, PDGF-C has been shown to promote the proliferation and migration of fibroblasts, key effector cells in the fibrotic process, thus accelerating the accumulation of extracellular matrix components and the formation of fibrotic tissue. Numerous studies have documented an upregulation of PDGF-C expression in various fibrotic diseases, suggesting its significant role in the initiation and progression of fibrosis. For instance, in liver fibrosis, PDGF-C stimulates hepatic stellate cell activation, contributing to the excessive deposition of collagen and other extracellular matrix proteins. Similarly, in pulmonary fibrosis, PDGF-C enhances the migration of fibroblasts into the damaged areas of lungs, thereby worsening the pathological process. Such findings highlight the pivotal role of PDGF-C in fibrotic diseases and underscore its potential as a therapeutic target for these conditions. Given its central role in the pathogenesis of fibrosis, PDGF-C has become an attractive target for therapeutic intervention. Several studies have focused on developing inhibitors that block the PDGF-C/PDGFR signaling pathway. These inhibitors aim to reduce fibroblast activation, prevent the excessive accumulation of extracellular matrix components, and halt the progression of fibrosis. Preclinical studies have demonstrated the efficacy of such inhibitors in animal models of liver, kidney, and lung fibrosis, with promising results in reducing fibrotic lesions and improving organ function. Furthermore, several clinical inhibitors, such as Olaratumab and Seralutinib, are ongoing to assess the safety and efficacy of these inhibitors in human patients, offering hope for novel therapeutic options in the treatment of fibrotic diseases. In conclusion, PDGF-C plays a critical role in the development and progression of fibrosis in vital organs. Its ability to regulate fibroblast activity and influence key signaling pathways makes it a promising target for therapeutic strategies aiming at combating fibrosis. Ongoing research into the regulation of PDGF-C expression and the development of PDGF-C/PDGFR inhibitors holds the potential to offer new insights and approaches for the diagnosis, treatment, and prevention of fibrotic diseases. Ultimately, these efforts may lead to the development of more effective and targeted therapies that can mitigate the impact of fibrosis and improve patient outcomes.

Key words PDGF-C, organ fibrosis, extracellular matrix, fibroblast

DOI: 10.16476/j.pibb.2024.0463 **CSTR:** 32369.14.pibb.20240463