

# 沙门菌介导的肿瘤治疗研究进展

陈信<sup>1</sup>, 张雯瑾<sup>1</sup>, 陈垚霖<sup>1</sup>, 刘欣雨<sup>1</sup>, 刘青<sup>\*2,3</sup>, 孔庆科<sup>\*1,3</sup>

1 西南大学 动物医学院, 重庆 400715

2 西南大学 动物科学技术学院, 重庆 400715

3 西南大学 宜宾研究院, 四川 宜宾 644000

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**摘要:** 传统的癌症疗法如放疗、化疗和手术在实体肿瘤治疗方面仍具有明显的局限性, 然而细菌介导的抗肿瘤疗法已取得显著的临床效果, 有望成为一种有效的肿瘤治疗策略。沙门菌(*Salmonella*)作为一种兼性厌氧菌, 可优先定植于肿瘤, 并通过重塑肿瘤微环境(tumor microenvironment, TME)激活宿主的抗肿瘤免疫反应。经基因工程改造的沙门菌具有良好的肿瘤靶向性和可控性, 在不同治疗需求下具有很强的适应性, 从而成为理想的药物递送载体。然而, 应用沙门菌治疗肿瘤的主要障碍是其在宿主体内的潜在致病性及如何提高细菌的肿瘤靶向性。为使基于沙门菌的肿瘤治疗更加安全有效, 需深入了解宿主免疫系统与细菌的相互作用。因此, 本文将从沙门菌的抗肿瘤机制、细菌的新型肿瘤治疗策略及沙门菌介导肿瘤治疗的挑战和展望等方面进行综述。

**关键词:** 沙门菌; 免疫系统; 肿瘤治疗; 靶向性; 安全性

## Advances in *Salmonella*-mediated tumor therapy

CHEN Xin<sup>1</sup>, ZHANG Wenjin<sup>1</sup>, CHEN Yaolin<sup>1</sup>, LIU Xinyu<sup>1</sup>, LIU Qing<sup>\*2,3</sup>, KONG Qingke<sup>\*1,3</sup>

1 College of Veterinary Medicine, Southwest University, Chongqing 400715, China

2 College of Animal Science and Technology, Southwest University, Chongqing 400715, China

3 Yibin Academy of Southwest University, Yibin 644000, Sichuan, China

**Abstract:** Conventional cancer therapies such as radiotherapy, chemotherapy, and surgery have obvious limitations in treating solid tumors. Bacteria-mediated tumor therapy has been proven effective in clinical studies and considered to be a promising strategy for tumor treatment. *Salmonella*, as a facultative anaerobic bacterium, can preferentially colonize tumors and activate

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\*Corresponding authors. E-mail: LIU Qing, qliu15@swu.edu.cn; KONG Qingke, kongqiki@swu.edu.cn

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the anti-tumor immune response of the host by remodeling the tumor microenvironment. Genetically engineered strains of *Salmonella* have good tumor targeting ability and controllability and are highly adaptable to different therapeutic requirements, thus serving as ideal carriers for drug delivery. Nevertheless, using *Salmonella* for tumor therapy faces two challenges: potential pathogenicity in the host and improvement of tumor-targeting ability. To develop safe and effective *Salmonella*-mediated therapies, researchers need to have deep insights into the interaction between *Salmonella* and the host immune system. We summarized the anti-tumor mechanisms of *Salmonella*, novel bacteria-mediated tumor therapies, and challenges and prospects of *Salmonella*-mediated tumor therapy.

**Keywords:** *Salmonella*; immune system; anti-tumor therapy; targeting ability; safety

肿瘤是机体受多种致癌因素(如化学致癌物、致癌微生物、生物衰老等)影响,局部组织细胞产生代谢变化和异常增生所形成的赘生物<sup>[1]</sup>。然而,由于肿瘤微环境(tumor microenvironment, TME)存在缺氧、低pH和高水平的H<sub>2</sub>O<sub>2</sub>等特征,传统疗法如手术切除和放射治疗仍无法有效控制肿瘤发展<sup>[2]</sup>。放射治疗是使用电离辐射引起肿瘤细胞DNA链断裂,但这种治疗效果会因TME中的低氧水平而降低,临床数据显示,氧分压小于10 mmHg的肿瘤对放射治疗的敏感性显著降低<sup>[3]</sup>。此外,TME缺氧可通过多种机制诱导肿瘤细胞表达耐药性相关基因<sup>[4]</sup>。肿瘤的核心区域血管稀少,与血管距离增加,导致肿瘤细胞不足以暴露在化疗药物中<sup>[5]</sup>。因此,研发新的肿瘤治疗策略刻不容缓。

细菌因具有肿瘤靶向性和肿瘤内增殖等特点而成为研究的热点。在癌症领域中首次应用细菌治疗可追溯到1890年,William B. Coley医生在癌症患者的肿瘤组织中注射了灭活的链球菌(*Streptococcus* sp.)和黏质沙雷菌(*Serratia marcescens*)混合物(称为Coley毒素),观察到肿瘤消退<sup>[6]</sup>。截至目前,卡介苗是美国食品药品监督管理局批准的唯一一种细菌制剂,自20世纪70年代末开始被用于非肌肉浸润性膀胱癌的治疗<sup>[7]</sup>。近年来,大肠杆菌(*Escherichia coli*)<sup>[8]</sup>、

沙门菌(*Salmonella*)<sup>[9]</sup>、双歧杆菌(*Bifidobacterium* sp.)<sup>[10]</sup>等不同细菌介导的癌症治疗得到广泛研究,其中沙门菌因靶向多种肿瘤,对肿瘤细胞具有天然毒性,以及全基因组测序等优势而成为研究的热点之一<sup>[11]</sup>。本篇综述将重点介绍沙门菌在肿瘤治疗中的研究与应用。

## 1 沙门菌介导肿瘤治疗的优势

沙门菌是一种革兰氏阴性兼性厌氧菌,菌体大小为(0.7–1.5) μm×(2.0–5.0) μm,无芽孢。作为一种条件性胞内寄生菌,沙门菌主要通过周身鞭毛运动,在普通琼脂培养基上形成无色的圆形菌落<sup>[12]</sup>。临床上沙门菌可引起胃肠炎、肠热症或败血症等疾病<sup>[13]</sup>。沙门菌的致病性与其毒力因子密切相关,其中包括脂多糖(lipopolysaccharide, LPS)、鞭毛、肠毒素及沙门菌毒力岛(*Salmonella* pathogenicity island, SPI)等<sup>[14]</sup>。LPS和鞭毛在沙门菌与宿主免疫系统相互作用中发挥着关键作用。LPS是由脂质A(lipid A)、核心寡糖和O抗原多糖组成<sup>[15]</sup>。Lipid A和核心寡糖的结构在沙门菌中相对保守,而最外层的O抗原多糖,则是由不同的单糖种类、数量、排列顺序和结合方式构成的抗原决定簇<sup>[16]</sup>。O抗原的结构和免疫原性可激活宿主的非特异性免疫反应<sup>[17]</sup>。鞭毛不仅是沙门菌的

运动器官，还是重要的菌体抗原。鞭毛蛋白的特异性取决于多肽链中氨基酸的排列顺序和空间构型，它能够通过模式识别受体激活免疫细胞，提高细胞对抗原识别和杀伤的能力<sup>[18]</sup>。

沙门菌可分为肠道沙门菌(*S. enterica*)和邦戈尔沙门菌(*S. bongor*)两种，肠道沙门菌包括猪霍乱沙门菌(*S. choleraesuis*)、鼠伤寒沙门菌(*S. typhimurium*)、肠炎沙门菌(*S. enteritidis*)等多种血清型<sup>[19]</sup>；其中，鼠伤寒沙门菌是肿瘤生物治疗研究中最常用的沙门菌之一。目前，用于肿瘤治疗的减毒鼠伤寒沙门菌主要源于菌株 14028、SL1344 和 LT2 等；例如，菌株 VNP20009 是一株广泛用于临床研究的经典减毒菌株，其在鼠伤寒沙门菌 14028 遗传背景上敲除了毒力相关基因 *purI* 和 *msbB*<sup>[20]</sup>。菌株 VNP20009 在黑色素瘤和乳腺癌小鼠模型中表现出良好的抗肿瘤活性<sup>[21]</sup>。

某些专性/兼性厌氧菌具有定殖肿瘤的倾向。专性厌氧菌如梭状芽孢杆菌(*Clostridium difficile*)通常形成需要在缺氧条件下萌发的芽孢，因此只能在缺氧或坏死区域较大的肿瘤中定殖<sup>[22]</sup>。然而，沙门菌等兼性厌氧菌不仅能够在肿瘤的低氧坏死区域生长，也能在肿瘤的常氧区域生长<sup>[23]</sup>。此外，沙门菌具有良好的运动性，能够从远端接种部位移向肿瘤部位，而在正常组织很少存在；相较于依赖被动分布和有限渗透的传统化疗药物治疗，沙门菌介导的肿瘤治疗具有更强的针对性<sup>[24]</sup>。沙门菌作为一种胞内寄生菌可感染不同类型的肿瘤细胞(例如乳腺肿瘤、结肠肿瘤和前列腺肿瘤)，侵入胞内的沙门菌诱导肿瘤抗原的交叉递呈同时招募效应性免疫细胞，激活抗肿瘤免疫反应，进而对肿瘤细胞产生间接的毒性作用<sup>[25]</sup>。已有研究证明，沙门菌能够抑制一些转移性肿瘤的生长并延长荷瘤小鼠的存活期<sup>[26]</sup>。

## 2 沙门菌介导的抗肿瘤机制

### 2.1 靶向肿瘤微环境

肿瘤细胞逃避免疫系统监视的能力一直是肿瘤治疗的主要障碍<sup>[27]</sup>。TME 中存在多种免疫抑制细胞，例如肿瘤相关巨噬细胞(tumor-associated macrophage, TAM)、调节性 T 淋巴细胞(regulatory T cell, Treg)和髓源性抑制细胞(myeloid-derived suppressor cell, MDSC)<sup>[28-30]</sup>。这些细胞通过分泌白细胞介素-6 (interleukin-6, IL-6)、白细胞介素-10 (interleukin-10, IL-10)、转化生长因子  $\beta$  (transforming growth factor  $\beta$ , TGF- $\beta$ )等免疫抑制因子，抑制细胞毒性 T 淋巴细胞(cytotoxic T lymphocyte, CTL)和自然杀伤细胞(natural killer cell, NK)对肿瘤的认识和杀伤作用，从而形成免疫抑制性的微环境<sup>[31]</sup>。肿瘤细胞通过下调肿瘤特异性抗原、分泌抗凋亡分子或抑制组织相容性复合体 I 的表达，逃避免疫系统的识别<sup>[32]</sup>。

由于特定的遗传背景，如运动性、肿瘤趋化性以及病原相关分子模式(pathogen-associated molecular pattern, PAMP)组成/丰度等，沙门菌能够靶向肿瘤组织，并通过竞争肿瘤代谢和增殖所需的营养物质抑制肿瘤的生长<sup>[33]</sup>。研究表明鼠伤寒沙门菌 SL1344 和 VNP20009 的平均游动速度是大肠杆菌 K12 和 DH5 $\alpha$  的 14.5 倍，而沙门菌在肿瘤中的积累量也是大肠杆菌的 1 000 倍以上<sup>[34]</sup>。肿瘤内嘌呤、氨基酸和各种生长因子等远高于正常组织水平，沙门菌利用天冬氨酸受体和丝氨酸受体向肿瘤组织趋化，而核糖/半乳糖受体介导细菌迁移到肿瘤的坏死区域<sup>[35]</sup>。TME 的免疫抑制特性不仅使沙门菌可以逃避机体的免疫清除，而且肿瘤组织丰富的血管网络为细菌提供营养物质，有利于细菌的生存和增殖<sup>[36]</sup>。一旦沙门菌在肿瘤组织中定殖，可分泌毒素或者直接将毒力蛋白注入肿瘤细胞

质内, 从而杀死肿瘤细胞<sup>[37]</sup>。

SPI 编码的 III 型分泌系统(type III secretion system, T3SS)是沙门菌重要的毒力因子<sup>[38]</sup>。细菌通过 T3SS 分泌效应蛋白重塑细胞骨架, 侵入肿瘤细胞内生长繁殖<sup>[39-40]</sup>。受细菌感染的肿瘤细胞递呈细菌来源的抗原决定簇, 并成为针对该抗原决定簇 T 细胞的靶标, 继而被免疫细胞清除<sup>[41]</sup>。沙门菌能够降低肿瘤细胞的缺氧诱导因子-1 $\alpha$  (hypoxia inducible factor-1 $\alpha$ , HIF-1 $\alpha$ ) 和血管内皮生长因子(vascular endothelial growth factor, VEGF)的表达, 从而抑制肿瘤血管的生成<sup>[42]</sup>。研究发现, 沙门菌可诱导树突状细胞(dendritic cell, DC)与黑色素瘤细胞之间的缝隙连接蛋白 43 (connexin 43, Cx43)的表达, 促进肿瘤抗原的交叉递呈<sup>[43]</sup>。

## 2.2 诱导抗肿瘤免疫反应

### 2.2.1 沙门菌鞭毛诱导抗肿瘤反应

鞭毛是沙门菌的主要毒力因子之一, 也是宿主免疫细胞能够识别的一种 PAMP<sup>[44]</sup>。鞭毛上有蛋白质构成的“旋转马达”, 促进沙门菌在肿瘤内的运动, 增强细菌对肿瘤细胞的侵袭能力<sup>[45]</sup>。Thornlow 等<sup>[46]</sup>证明, 具有高运动表型的沙门菌能够更深入地渗透到肿瘤细胞团中, 积累在肿瘤的坏死区域, 从而更有效地治疗血管稀少的耐药肿瘤区域。Raman 等<sup>[47]</sup>研究发现, 过表达鞭毛的主调节因子 *flhDC* 基因可增加沙门菌在肿瘤细胞内的密度和肿瘤部位的总定殖量, 防止细菌泄漏到肿瘤外。

另一方面, 沙门菌鞭毛蛋白(flagellin)与模式识别受体(pattern recognition receptor, PRR), 如细胞表面的 toll 样受体 5 (toll-like receptor 5, TLR5)或胞质内的核苷酸结合寡聚化结构域(nucleotide-binding oligomerization domain, NOD)样受体蛋白结合并激活免疫反应<sup>[48]</sup>。如图 1 所示, 沙门菌鞭毛通过与 DC、CD4<sup>+</sup> T 细胞和巨噬细

胞表面的 TLR5 结合, 激活 TLR/NF- $\kappa$ B 信号通路<sup>[49]</sup>。CD4<sup>+</sup> T 细胞表达干扰素- $\gamma$  (interferon- $\gamma$ , IFN- $\gamma$ )、白细胞介素 18 (IL-18)和肿瘤坏死因子- $\alpha$  (tumor necrosis factor- $\alpha$ , TNF- $\alpha$ )等炎性细胞因子, 促进 NK 细胞和 CD8<sup>+</sup> T 细胞分泌颗粒酶(granzyme)和穿孔素(perforin)杀死肿瘤细胞, 同时减少 TME 中的 CD4<sup>+</sup>和 CD25<sup>+</sup> Treg 数量<sup>[50]</sup>。研究发现 CD4<sup>+</sup> T 细胞分泌的 IFN- $\gamma$  和 IL-18 可以将巨噬细胞和 CD8<sup>+</sup> T 细胞募集到肿瘤部位, 使 TME 从免疫抑制状态转变为免疫激活状态, 导致肿瘤消退<sup>[51]</sup>。此外, 鞭毛蛋白还是疫苗的有效佐剂<sup>[52-54]</sup>。Rhee 等<sup>[55]</sup>已证明鞭毛蛋白具有较强的抗肿瘤活性, 可以抑制结肠癌的发展。源自沙门菌鞭毛蛋白的多肽 CBLB502 可以刺激非特异性免疫反应, 被用作一种有效且无毒的癌症放射治疗保护剂<sup>[56]</sup>。

### 2.2.2 沙门菌脂多糖诱导抗肿瘤反应

沙门菌的 LPS 也是一种重要的 PAMP。如图 1 所示, LPS 与巨噬细胞表面的 toll 样受体 4 (toll-like receptor 4, TLR4)结合, 促使巨噬细胞向 M1 促炎表型极化, 释放大量促炎物质、细胞因子和趋化因子, 如诱导型一氧化氮合酶(inducible nitric oxide synthase, iNOS)、TNF- $\alpha$ 、干扰素- $\alpha$  (IFN- $\alpha$ )和白细胞介素-12 (IL-12)<sup>[32]</sup>。iNOS 催化合成高浓度 NO 引起肿瘤细胞 DNA 损伤, 抑制内皮细胞和血管平滑肌细胞的增殖, 进而抑制肿瘤生长和转移<sup>[57]</sup>。TNF- $\alpha$  能够诱导 DC 成熟和迁移, 进而将肿瘤抗原递呈给 CD8<sup>+</sup> T 细胞和 NK 细胞<sup>[58]</sup>。肿瘤微环境中 IFN- $\alpha$  和 IL-12 的积累可吸引 T 淋巴细胞<sup>[59]</sup>。早在几十年前, Berendt 等<sup>[60]</sup>将沙门菌的 LPS 静脉注射到 4 种不同的肿瘤小鼠体内, 来探讨其对肿瘤生长的影响; 结果表明所有肿瘤都发生了出血性坏死, 而纤维肉瘤和梭形细胞肉瘤完全消退, 治疗后 6 个月内癌症的复发率低于 10%。

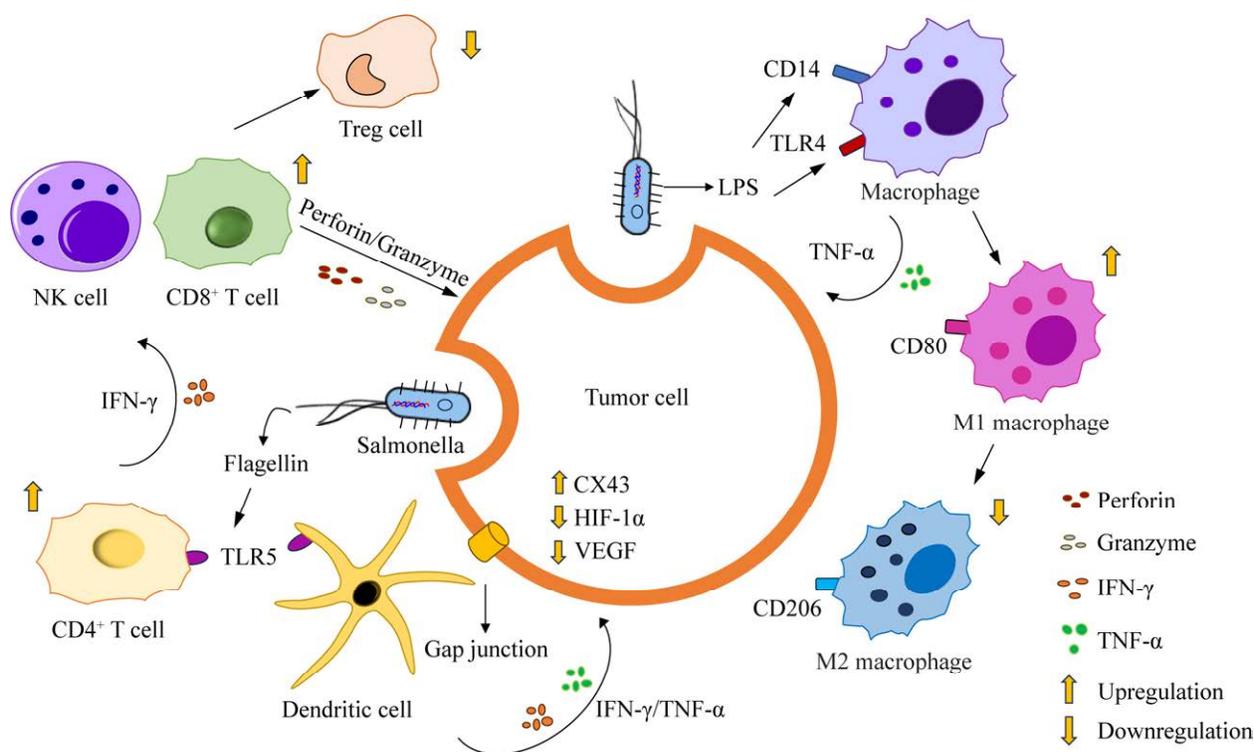


图 1 沙门菌介导的抗肿瘤免疫反应示意图

Figure 1 Schematic representation of *Salmonella*-mediated anti-tumor immune response.

Lipid A 是 LPS 最保守的成分。肿瘤内游离的 LPS 可被巨噬细胞的表面受体 CD14 捕获, 随后 Lipid A 酰基链与髓样分化蛋白-2 (myeloid differentiation 2 protein, MD-2) 结合在 TLR4 受体上, 进而启动下游信号通路<sup>[61-62]</sup>。研究表明, 具有 6 条酰基链的 Lipid A 免疫活性最高<sup>[63]</sup>。然而, 为了在感染期间抵抗宿主的免疫屏障, 沙门菌通过调节 Lipid A 3-O-脱酰基酶 PagL 和 Lipid A 棕榈酰基转移酶 PagP 的表达, 对 Lipid A 进行棕榈酰化和/或去酰化的重塑, 以此改变酰基链的数量和长度来逃避免疫系统的识别<sup>[64-65]</sup>。本课题组通过修饰 *pagP*、*pagL* 等相关基因, 使沙门菌稳定地合成含有 6 条酰基链的 Lipid A, 实验结果表明, 这种遗传改造使沙门菌具有较高的免疫刺激活性, 保持细菌在宿主体内 TLR4 的信号转导并有效地逆转肿瘤微环境中的免疫抑制状态<sup>[66-67]</sup>。

除了沙门菌鞭毛和 LPS, 还有其他 PAMP 如细菌菌毛、外膜蛋白和非甲基化寡核苷酸等。它们不仅能提高细菌对肿瘤细胞的黏附和侵袭能力, 还能激活巨噬细胞和 CD4<sup>+</sup> T 细胞, 并诱导 TNF- $\alpha$  和 IFN- $\gamma$  等效应因子的分泌, 从而产生抗肿瘤效应<sup>[68-69]</sup>。

### 3 细菌治疗肿瘤策略的优化

从 100 多年前 Coley 医生尝试用细菌治疗肿瘤到现在, 细菌治疗肿瘤的有效性和优越性已被广泛认可。然而, 基于沙门菌介导的肿瘤治疗在实现临床转化方面仍存在 3 个重要问题: (1) 靶向肿瘤的效率低; (2) 细菌作为一种病原微生物感染健康组织, 可能造成机体败血性休克; (3) 细菌的抗肿瘤能力较弱。如何既增强细菌疗法的肿瘤靶向性, 又提高安全性与治疗效果, 是细菌疗法走向临床应用的主要挑战, 攻克

这些难题是沙门菌等细菌应用肿瘤治疗的关键。随着相关研究不断深入和现代生物技术的发展,上述问题已得到一些解决方案。本文接下来将对细菌介导肿瘤治疗的优化策略进行介绍。

### 3.1 提高肿瘤靶向性

沙门菌具有运动性且能够在低氧条件下生长,因此可以主动迁移到 TME 并定殖在肿瘤中心的缺氧区域。但由于这种天然的趋向并不稳定,导致许多治疗效果不佳。因此,需要开发肿瘤靶向性更强的细菌载体。早期研究使用营养缺陷型菌株来研究肿瘤靶向性,如沙门菌双重营养缺陷株(亮氨酸/精氨酸依赖性),这种菌株需要特定的氨基酸才能繁殖,因此可以在富含亮氨酸和精氨酸的 TME 中生长,而在正常组织中逐渐被清除<sup>[70]</sup>。还有研究者通过在沙门菌表面表达针对肿瘤相关抗原的特异性抗体,以提高其对肿瘤组织的靶向能力。Park 等<sup>[71]</sup>将精氨酸-甘氨酸-天冬氨酸短肽(Arg-Gly-Asp, RGD peptide)与外膜蛋白 OmpA 融合表达在鼠伤寒沙门菌的外膜上,发现这种菌株在体外与整合素  $\alpha v \beta 3$  阳性肿瘤细胞结合的能力,以及在小鼠体内靶向黑色素瘤的能力明显增强。另外,通过在沙门菌表面展示结直肠癌相关癌胚抗原(carcinoembryonic antigen, CEA)的抗体片段,也提高了细菌对 CEA 过表达肿瘤的治疗效果<sup>[72]</sup>。

肿瘤的酸性微环境也可用于靶向研究,Zhang 等<sup>[73]</sup>利用细菌胞外囊泡(一种由细菌产生的直径约为 200–400 nm 的纳米级囊泡)外膜表面展示低 pH 插入肽,可以精准地靶向肿瘤酸性微环境并递送阿霉素,导致原位乳腺肿瘤的消退。近年来,通过合成材料与活细菌的相互作用,也提高了细菌的抗癌潜力。例如,在细菌表面嵌入磁性纳米颗粒,可以利用磁场引导细菌定向运动,实现精确治疗肿瘤的目的<sup>[74]</sup>。另外,通过共价交联的方式将纳米光敏剂连接在沙门菌的

表面,可对肿瘤进行特异性的光热治疗<sup>[75–76]</sup>。

### 3.2 提高治疗安全性

沙门菌介导的肿瘤治疗仍存在对宿主具有潜在毒性的问题。常见的方法是利用基因工程技术构建减毒沙门菌,通过删除毒力基因或引入营养缺陷来减弱沙门菌毒力。例如删除 *aroA* 基因的沙门菌只能在富含芳香族氨基酸的肿瘤组织中生长,而几乎不会在健康组织存在,这种策略不仅减弱了沙门菌的毒力,还提高了其靶向肿瘤的能力<sup>[77]</sup>。未来的研究可能会在细菌毒性和靶向能力之间找到一个平衡点,既保留靶向性,又不会过度削弱细菌的活性。鼠伤寒沙门菌株 YB1 的必需基因 *asd* 受到厌氧启动子  $P_{pepT}$  的转录控制,而需氧启动子  $P_{sodA}$  则促进 *asd* 反义 mRNA 的转录,从而关闭 *asd* 基因转录后的翻译过程;结果表明菌株 YB1 仅在氧含量低于 0.5% 时存活;此种策略将细菌繁殖限制在肿瘤的缺氧区域,减少了细菌对健康组织的损害<sup>[78]</sup>。

另外,研究者开发了一类具有特定感应能力、可自主裂解的工程菌,防止细菌在体内无法控制地增殖。Din 等<sup>[79]</sup>通过“同步裂解电路”控制沙门菌的种群密度,随着细菌种群的增长导致酰基高丝氨酸内酯(acyl-homoserine lactone, AHL)浓度超过阈值时,AHL 就会进入菌体内与转录抑制因子 LuxR 结合,形成 LuxR-AHL 复合物,进而激活群体感应启动子  $P_{LuxI}$  下游裂解基因 *E* 的转录(图 2);该基因来自噬菌体  $\Phi X174$ ,在沙门菌中表达产生的裂解蛋白 E 会破坏肽聚糖的结构导致细菌裂解,释放药物细胞溶血素(hemolysin E, HlyE)杀死肿瘤细胞;细菌群体裂解后,少数幸存的细菌进入下一个循环周期。在这种群体感应系统中,自诱导物与裂解相关基因的启动子相互作用,引发级联反应,不仅降低细菌造成全身炎症的可能性,而且能够持续在肿瘤部位释放抗肿瘤药物,达到持续性长、

安全性高的治疗效果。

沙门菌可以感知胞内环境并特异性地激活细菌的某些启动子。Raman 等<sup>[80]</sup>对沙门菌减毒株 VNP20009 进行基因改造并开发了一种胞内裂解系统(图 3), 他们使用启动子  $P_{sseJ}$  来调控裂解蛋白 E 的表达, 导致细菌在进入肿瘤细胞后迅速裂解死亡, 释放细胞凋亡分子并诱导肿瘤

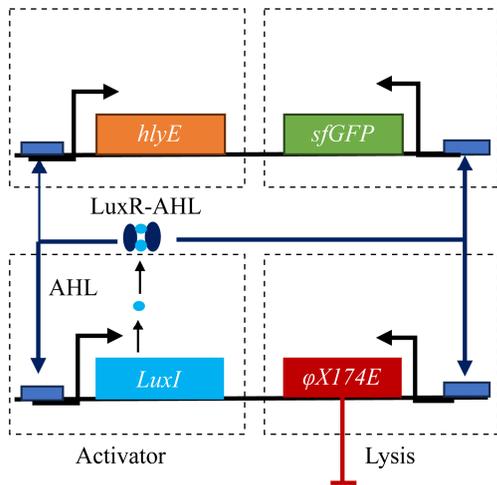


图 2 同步裂解电路示意图(改编自参考文献[79])  
Figure 2 Schematic diagram of the synchronized lysis circuit (adapted from the reference [79]).

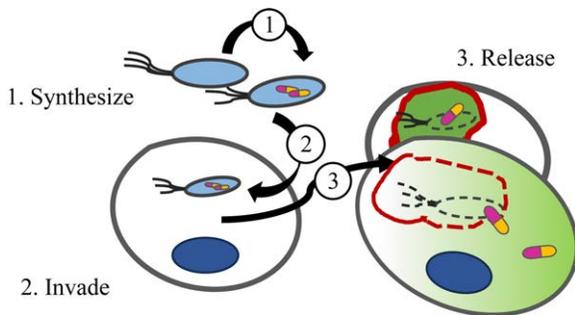


图 3 胞内裂解系统示意图(改编自参考文献[80])  
① 合成蛋白质药物; ② 侵入肿瘤细胞; ③ 释放药物

Figure 3 Schematic diagram of the intracellular lysis system (adapted from reference [80]). ① Synthesis of protein drugs; ② Invasion of tumor cells; ③ Release of drugs.

细胞凋亡。唐一波等<sup>[81-82]</sup>基于细菌VI型分泌系统产生的 Tse1 裂解蛋白成功构建了一个能够在低  $Mg^{2+}$  条件下激活的自裂解系统, 具有该裂解系统的沙门菌疫苗载体在递送异源抗原的动物实验中取得了良好的免疫效果。因此可进一步开发适用于肿瘤治疗的裂解系统。上述不同条件诱导裂解的细菌载体不仅可以有效地将治疗分子递送到肿瘤中, 而且在治疗一段时间后被大部分器官清除, 从而降低细菌对宿主的毒副作用。

### 3.3 提高治疗有效性

与传统的药物载体不同, 细菌载体具有自主原位合成、释放和活化药物的特性, 有助于降低药物对正常组织的毒性, 并防止药物在运输过程中失去活性。Ryan 等<sup>[83]</sup>使用低氧诱导型启动子调控药物蛋白 HlyE 的表达; 沙门菌经静脉注射后迅速迁移到乳腺肿瘤的缺氧区, 仅在肿瘤的坏死部位表达高水平的 HlyE, 继而破坏细胞膜导致肿瘤细胞死亡。Raman 等<sup>[80]</sup>使用减毒沙门菌 VNP20009 递送能够引起肿瘤细胞凋亡的治疗分子, 即激活型半胱氨酸天冬氨酸蛋白酶 3 (constitutive active caspase-3, CT Casp-3); CT Casp-3 不仅诱导肿瘤细胞凋亡, 还阻断肝癌和肺癌的转移, 提高了肿瘤小鼠的生存率。大肠杆菌来源的天冬酰胺酶(L-asparaginase, L-ASP) 是治疗急性淋巴细胞白血病的常用成分<sup>[84]</sup>。肿瘤细胞不能合成天冬酰胺, 需要依靠外源供给满足自身生长。L-ASP 催化天冬酰胺脱氨生成天冬氨酸, 可降低体内天冬酰胺水平而抑制肿瘤生长<sup>[85]</sup>。Kim 等<sup>[86]</sup>利用沙门菌作为载体将 L-ASP 递送至肿瘤, 实验结果表明, 相较于单一 L-ASP 治疗组, 表达 L-ASP 的沙门菌治疗组显示出更有效的肿瘤抑制作用, 并且几乎未损害健康组织。

随着肿瘤免疫学的发展, 研究者已经使用沙门菌作为载体将多种免疫分子(如 IL-4<sup>[87]</sup>、IL-18<sup>[88]</sup>、TRAIL<sup>[89]</sup>和 FAS 配体<sup>[90]</sup>)递送到肿瘤

中,从而提高了细菌治疗的效果。肿瘤细胞通过高表达 CD47 与 TAM 表面的信号调节蛋白  $\alpha$  (signal regulatory protein  $\alpha$ , SIRP  $\alpha$ )受体相结合,逃避巨噬细胞的吞噬作用<sup>[91]</sup>。Chowdhury 等<sup>[92]</sup>将群体裂解系统应用到癌症治疗中,利用细菌裂解后释放表达的 CD47 纳米抗体(nanobody antagonist of CD47, CD47nb)抑制肿瘤细胞的抗吞噬作用;实验结果表明 CD47nb 不仅激活了肿瘤浸润性 T 细胞,还增强了骨髓源性巨噬细胞吞噬肿瘤细胞的能力,达到了迅速消除肿瘤并预防肿瘤转移的效果(图 4)。细菌介导的肿瘤治疗策略也越来越接近临床应用。聚焦超声广泛应用于临床,具有作用准确、升温快及穿透性强等优势。在 39–42 °C条件下,一些细菌仍能正常生长(如沙门菌和大肠杆菌),利用聚焦超声调控细菌表达治疗药物,可以提高肿瘤细菌疗法的可控性<sup>[93]</sup>。Chen 等<sup>[94]</sup>基于大肠杆菌 MG1655 设计了一种无创的聚焦超声调控细菌基因表达的治

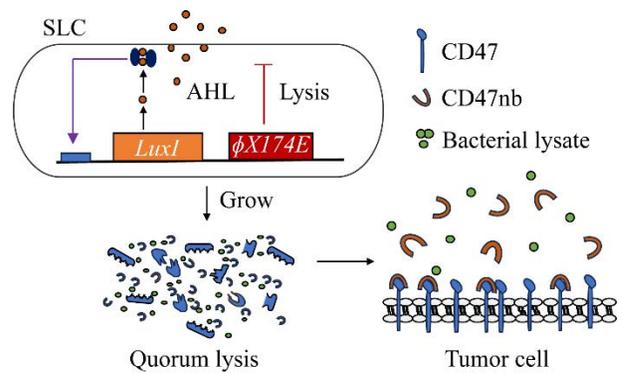


图 4 群体裂解系统应用肿瘤免疫治疗示意图(改编自参考文献[92])

Figure 4 Schematic diagram of the quorum lysis system applied to tumor immunotherapy (adapted from reference [92]).

疗方案,肿瘤组织暴露在超声照射下温度会升高,当温度达到 42 °C时,启动子  $P_R-P_L$  被激活,从而诱导细菌表达 IFN- $\gamma$  杀死肿瘤细胞,增强抗肿瘤免疫反应(图 5);此外,无论是原位还是转移肿瘤,该方案均具有明显的抑瘤作用,能

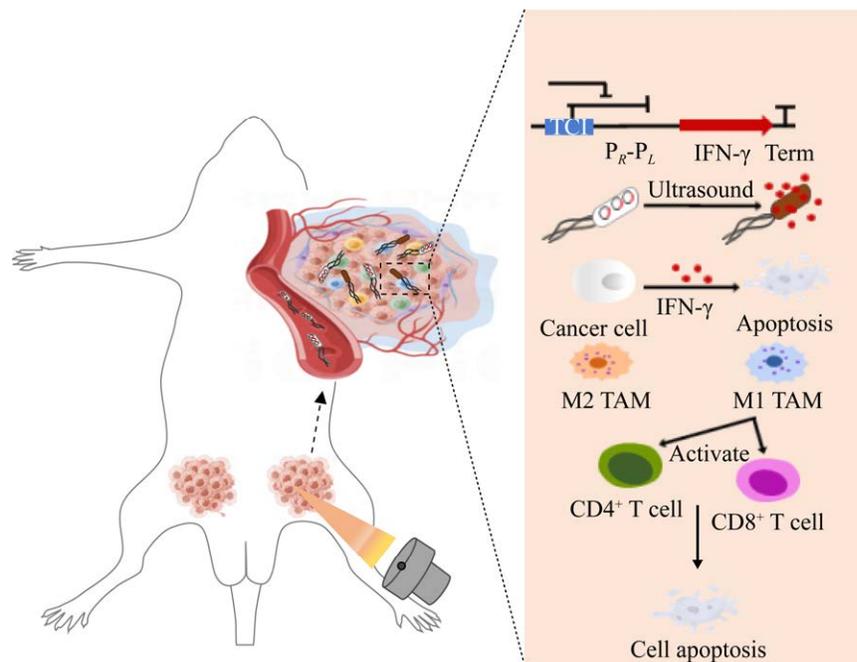


图 5 聚焦超声诱导 IFN- $\gamma$  的表达及肿瘤免疫治疗机制的示意图(改编自参考文献[94])

Figure 5 Schematic diagram of focused ultrasound-induced IFN- $\gamma$  expression and its mechanism of tumor immunotherapy (adapted from the reference [94]).

够延长小鼠的存活期；治疗后，肿瘤小鼠的 CD4<sup>+</sup> T 细胞、CD8<sup>+</sup> T 细胞和 CD80<sup>+</sup>巨噬细胞明显增多，而 CD206<sup>+</sup>巨噬细胞减少，这表明细菌表达的 IFN- $\gamma$  能够诱导 TAM 向促炎 M1 型巨噬细胞型极化，并增强 T 细胞的活化。Ektate 等<sup>[95]</sup> 使用包载阿霉素(doxorubicin, Dox)的低温敏感脂质体修饰沙门菌，并将其静脉注射到肿瘤小鼠体内的结果显示：当沙门菌在肿瘤组织内积聚，通过聚焦超声照射将肿瘤加热至 42 °C，脂质体膜的结构发生变化释放大量 Dox 诱导肿瘤细胞凋亡，促使 TAM 向 M1 型巨噬细胞极化，从而抑制肿瘤生长并展现出较高水平的生物安全性。上述策略不仅增强细菌的抗肿瘤效应，还有助于治疗药物的靶向表达，降低了全身性细胞因子风暴发生的风险。

## 4 总结与展望

沙门菌通过改变肿瘤固有的级联信号和相关基因的表达来逆转 TME 的免疫抑制特性，同时，它也可以激活肿瘤中的免疫细胞(巨噬细胞、NK 细胞、CD4<sup>+</sup>和 CD8<sup>+</sup> T 细胞等)，进而增强抗肿瘤免疫反应<sup>[96]</sup>。另外，沙门菌作为一种有效的药物递送载体，不仅可以治疗现有的肿瘤，还可以预防肿瘤的复发和转移。根据上述来自国内外不同实验室的研究结果表明，沙门菌介导的癌症治疗可激活先天性与适应性免疫反应。基于这些发现，研究者可以结合多种策略来提高细菌载体的治疗效果和生物相容性，如减弱毒力或延迟减毒、自主裂解、靶向表达等。然而将来仍须探索沙门菌的抗肿瘤机制，并根据肿瘤的种类、大小、位置等特点加强个性化治疗。近期研究发现肿瘤内部存在一种天然的微生物菌群<sup>[97]</sup>，细菌治疗是否会导致患者微生物菌群紊乱，进而影响治疗的效果，还有待进一步的研究。综上所述，沙门菌等细菌介

导的疗法有可能在临床应用中克服传统疗法的局限性，为肿瘤治疗和预防带来希望，相信随着微生物基因工程技术的发展和研究方法的不断完善，其应用前景将是一片光明。

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