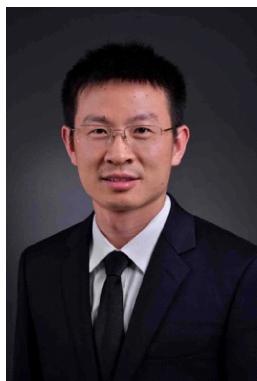


· 学术前沿 ·

# 甲状腺微小乳头状癌消融治疗的现状及进展

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**摘要：**随着消融技术的不断发展，消融已成为甲状腺微小乳头状癌(PTMC)的一种新的治疗选择。近年来有多项临床研究探讨各种消融技术治疗 PTMC 的可行性、安全性和长期疗效。本文针对近期 PTMC 消融治疗手段及其疗效进行综述，旨在为该疾病的治疗和方案选择提供参考。

**关键词：**甲状腺微小乳头状癌；热消融治疗；射频消融；微波消融；激光消融；高强度聚焦超声；不可逆电穿孔

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## Recent status and advances of ablation for papillary thyroid microcarcinoma

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**Abstract:** With the continuous development of ablation technology, ablation has become a new treatment option for papillary thyroid microcarcinoma (PTMC). Numerous clinical studies have been carried out recently to confirm the viability, safety, and long-term effectiveness of different ablation procedures in the treatment of PTMC. In order to give the most up-to-date information and treatment choices for PTMC, this article examines current ablation therapy options for PTMC and their effectiveness.

**Keywords:** Papillary thyroid microcarcinoma; Thermal ablation therapy; Radio-frequency ablation; Microwave ablation; Laser ablation; High-intensity focused ultrasound; Irreversible electroporation

### 1 消融治疗的概述

甲状腺乳头状癌的发病率呈逐年上升趋势，其中肿瘤最大直径≤1 cm 的甲状腺微小乳头状癌(papillary thyroid microcarcinoma, PTMC) 的占比已超过

50%<sup>[1-2]</sup>。PTMC 属于惰性癌症类型，生长缓慢，不易转移和侵犯<sup>[3]</sup>。

自 2009 年美国甲状腺协会发布的分化型甲状腺癌管理指南中首次提及了射频消融后<sup>[4]</sup>，2015 年中国发布了甲状腺良性结节、微小癌及颈部转移性淋巴

结热消融治疗的浙江省专家共识<sup>[5]</sup>,共识中明确提出热消融治疗甲状腺相关疾病的具体临床规范,并于2018年发布中国共识<sup>[6]</sup>,进一步规范热消融技术在甲状腺肿瘤中的应用;次年,中国临床肿瘤学会发布指南提出甲状腺癌的消融适应证局限于3~4个病灶且直径<2 cm<sup>[7]</sup>;2020年日本发布的有关PTMC主动监测的共识中未提及热消融技术<sup>[8]</sup>;2021年欧洲甲状腺协会发布了消融治疗恶性甲状腺病变的指南<sup>[9]</sup>;2022年美国、英国、欧洲、意大利、韩国等多个国家发布消融治疗甲状腺良恶性疾病的联合共识,对不同消融技术的原理、疗效进行详细介绍<sup>[10]</sup>。目前为止,所有指南和共识均指出PTMC的一线治疗方法为外科手术,然而长期研究发现外科手术的术中风险和术后并发症的发生率较高,患者满意度普遍较低<sup>[11-12]</sup>。因此随访观察或消融治疗为PTMC提供了新的治疗选择<sup>[6,9,13-15]</sup>。

消融技术分为热消融和非热消融,本文主要围绕热消融中的射频消融(radio-frequency ablation, RFA)、微波消融(microwave ablation, MWA)、激光消融(laser ablation, LA)和高强度聚焦超声(high-intensity focused ultrasound, HIFU)以及非热消融中的不可逆电穿孔(irreversible electroporation, IRE)展开描述。热消融的主要作用原理是基于极端高温条件下对组织造成不可逆性损伤<sup>[10]</sup>。而IRE的作用机制是短时间内利用强大的电场脉冲在细胞膜上留下永久性的渗透作用,从而破坏细胞活性<sup>[16]</sup>。由于消融治疗具有对周围组织创伤小、术后恢复时间短及切口美观等特点,近年来被广泛用于治疗低危PTMC<sup>[17]</sup>。

## 2 PTMC 消融的治疗方案

**2.1 术前评估** 消融是一种在原位灭活肿瘤并达到局部根治的技术,其对肿瘤以及患者自身的要求较高,因此消融前的详细检查以及评估至关重要。患者术前需进行超声检查以确定肿瘤大小、位置、回声、囊实性成分和血管供应情况,以便选择最佳的消融技术<sup>[10,18]</sup>。此外,为了避免对患者的过度治疗,术前均需进行穿刺活检(推荐使用细针穿刺活检行细胞学检查)以明确病理类型<sup>[6]</sup>。

### 2.2 热消融技术

**2.2.1 RFA** RFA作为PTMC的常用消融治疗方法之一,其独特作用原理在于通过释放射频电流搅动组织离子产生热效应<sup>[19]</sup>,使整个靶区的温度达到50~100℃并维持4~6 min,从而发生不可逆的细胞损伤以及近距离组织凝固<sup>[10]</sup>。

Yan等<sup>[20]</sup>对884例PTMC患者开展研究,其中460例患者接受传统外科手术,424例患者进行RFA治疗,经过平均48.3个月的随访,结果显示与传统手术组相比,接受RFA患者的手术时间较短、术中失血量较少、住院时间较短、治疗成本较低,且术后并发症发生率低。一项包括15个研究的荟萃分析显示,1 770例接受RFA治疗的PTMC患者的肿瘤完全消失率为79%(95%CI:65%~94%),平均随访时间33.0个月,肿瘤进展率为1.5%,仅0.9%的患者出现新的病灶,0.2%出现淋巴结转移<sup>[21]</sup>。一项随访时间超过5年的回顾性研究发现,RFA治疗PTMC的术后体积缩小率达到(100±0.3)%,且96.9%的肿瘤病灶消失,没有患者出现并发症或延迟手术<sup>[22]</sup>。Li等<sup>[23]</sup>研究RFA治疗对后续手术管理的影响,对10例接受RFA治疗后因担心RFA新技术的疗效以及缺乏家庭支持等因素再次接受外科手术的PTMC患者开展研究,术中可见所有患者未出现肌肉和神经损伤,且病理检查未发现残留病灶。因此,如有必要,RFA并不影响后续手术管理。此外,Scappaticcio等<sup>[24]</sup>对接受RFA的PTMC患者术后动态风险分层系统进行进一步评估,将患者分为完全、不确定或不完全应答三类,这一应答系统可以有效预测肿瘤的进展风险并可及时调整随访计划。

近年有研究比较RFA和外科手术治疗T<sub>1b</sub>N<sub>0</sub>M<sub>0</sub>(肿瘤最大直径>1~2 cm)甲状腺乳头状癌的疗效,结果显示在局部肿瘤进展、淋巴结转移、肿瘤复发、无复发生存率等方面差异无统计学意义,且RFA在治疗时间、手术成本、术中失血量和术后并发症方面表现良好<sup>[15,25-26]</sup>。Tang等<sup>[27]</sup>对559例发生颈部淋巴结转移的PTMC患者进行的荟萃分析显示,接受RFA治疗的肿瘤体积缩小率达到了95.57%,手术并发症发生率为0.3%。Song等<sup>[28]</sup>对峡部PTMC患者进行RFA治疗,1、3、6、12和18个月的消融区消失率为0.8%、10.4%、51.3%、90.4%和100%,且没有患者出现远处转移。现有甲状腺乳头状癌的消融适应指征将在大量临床研究和探索中有望得到扩展和更新。

但RFA也存在一定局限性,对于妊娠期或体内有植入式心律转复除颤器(ICD)患者,可能存在胎儿损伤或影响ICD功能的问题<sup>[10]</sup>。期待未来有系统培训的操作课程供临床医生学习以提高实践水平。最后,结合近年来多项临床研究结果证实RFA对低风险PTMC具有良好的疗效,可以为不耐受或拒绝手术的患者提供一种新的微创治疗方案<sup>[10-11,29-32]</sup>。

**2.2.2 MWA** MWA能够利用介质滞后产生大量热

量,当组织被电磁场产生的致命热量破坏时,组织中的极性分子(尤其是水分)被迫增加动能以提高组织温度<sup>[33]</sup>。基于辐射特性,MWA 能较为轻易地穿透并加热周围聚集的组织(无论烧焦或干燥),从而突破传输功率有限这一局限性<sup>[34]</sup>。此外,MWA 还可以利用热协同效应同时处理多个肿瘤,且在激活过程中连续供电,从而做到有效加热<sup>[35]</sup>。

一项长达 5 年的随访报告指出 MWA 治疗后所有肿瘤均完全消失,体积缩小率为  $(99.37 \pm 4.02)\%$ ,且术后均未发生复发、淋巴结转移或远处转移<sup>[36]</sup>。Wei 等<sup>[37]</sup>对 1 029 例接受 MWA 或外科手术治疗的 PTMC 患者开展研究发现,MWA 的术中失血量和手术用时较少,重大并发症的发生率为 5.4%,且所有 MWA 组患者术后均未发生永久性声音嘶哑。最新的荟萃分析表明与传统手术相比,MWA 能够成为一种有效、安全的 PTMC 治疗方案<sup>[38]</sup>。为了更好地验证 MWA 的疗效,病理组织学科也开展了一系列的研究,研究结果显示 MWA 术后病理检查中容易见到成纤维细胞增生或慢性炎症<sup>[39]</sup>,且均未见残留肿瘤组织<sup>[40]</sup>。另外,MWA 术后部分促炎症和肿瘤作用的基因表达发生下调<sup>[41]</sup>。

目前 MWA 仍局限于治疗单灶性 PTMC,因此国内外开始探索 MWA 对多灶性 PTMC 的疗效。多项研究表明,接受 MWA 治疗的多灶性 PTMC 病例均实现完全消融,技术成功率和体积缩小率均达到 100%,且术后并发症较少<sup>[42-45]</sup>。此外,为了进一步研究 MWA 对已侵犯包膜的 PTMC 患者疗效,Zheng 等<sup>[45]</sup>进行了一项前瞻性研究显示,包膜侵犯组和未侵犯组技术成功率分别为 99% 和 100%,并且两组在疾病进展和肿瘤体积缩小率方面差异无统计学意义。此外,中国学者针对临近被膜、侵犯被膜和位于峡部的 PTMC 患者开展研究,结果均表明 MWA 对 PTMC 的疗效较好<sup>[46-48]</sup>。综上所述,MWA 是 PTMC 的一个有效且安全的微创治疗方法。

### 2.2.3 LA

与其他热消融技术相比,LA 能够更加精准地进行穿刺,并且能够控制侧方热扩散,保护周围大血管、气管壁或者喉返神经。LA 的技术原理是通过组织吸收光子加热,靠近石英光纤( $300\sim600\text{ }\mu\text{m}$ )尖端进行能量的输出,高温使病变组织汽化,足量的激光能够导致整个目标汽化、碳化或凝固性坏死<sup>[49-50]</sup>。因此对于肿瘤靠近关键结构或者体内存有起搏器的 PTMC 患者仍可适用<sup>[51]</sup>。

一项长达 10 年的回顾性研究发现,PTMC 患者对 LA 的耐受性较好,术后 3~10 个月所有消融区域

全部消失或出现瘢痕,术后 12 个月肿瘤消失率为 100%。同时,LA 术后甲状腺激素和自身抗体水平均未出现明显变化<sup>[52]</sup>。Zhou 等<sup>[53]</sup>研究发现,LA 相对于外科手术治疗 PTMC 的住院时间和手术时间较短,体积缩小率差异无统计学意义。Valcavi 等<sup>[54]</sup>从病理学和免疫组化方面对 LA 的疗效研究发现,LA 治疗后肿瘤组织会发生失构和碳化,TTF1 和抗线粒体抗体表达完全丧失。该结果同样证实了 LA 治疗 PTMC 是可行且有效的。为了研究 LA 对老年 PTMC 患者的疗效,Juan 等<sup>[55]</sup>对 38 例符合要求的 PTMC 老年患者进行一项为期 5 年的回顾性研究,结果显示所有老年患者术后均未出现明显的并发症和淋巴结转移,术后 4 年所有肿瘤完全消失。LA 对无法进行手术的 PTMC 老年患者有效且安全。

早在 2013 年有学者对颈部淋巴结转移的 PTMC 患者开展研究,研究发现接受 LA 治疗的技术成功率 100%,且未见明显手术并发症。近年相关研究也证实了 LA 是颈部淋巴结转移 PTMC 患者的一个有效替代方案<sup>[56-57]</sup>。Zhang 等<sup>[1]</sup>研究发现 LA 对多灶性 PTMC 患者的疗效相当,该研究对 LA 治疗单灶性和多灶性 PTMC 进行对比,结果表明两组体积缩小率差异无统计学意义,所有消融区域均全部消失。由此可见,不符合外科手术的多灶性 PTMC 患者可以考虑 LA 治疗。此外,多项研究和共识均证明 LA 是 PTMC 的一种安全且有效的治疗方法<sup>[51, 58-60]</sup>。

### 2.2.4 HIFU

HIFU 是唯一一个完全做到无创消融的技术,它利用声波来瞄准病变部位,将多个声源的高强度声波聚焦到同一个靶点上,能量集中在一个小区域,短时间内产生超过 85 °C 的高温,从而使细胞死亡<sup>[9, 19]</sup>。到目前为止,HIFU 仅应用于良性甲状腺结节,对 PTMC 的治疗效果在文献中描述较少,因此仍需要大量临床研究和探索来验证其安全性和有效性。

### 2.3 IRE

IRE 是治疗 PTMC 的一种新兴消融方法,其独特的作用机制是利用高频电场脉冲诱导和跨膜电位使膜发生永久性渗透(即纳米孔),当跨膜电位达到阈值就会出现不可逆的电穿孔<sup>[61-62]</sup>。IRE 主要诱导细胞凋亡(程序化、受调控的非炎性细胞死亡),能够避免对大血管、气管组织、周围神经组织和细胞外基质造成损伤<sup>[61-63]</sup>,与其他消融技术相比,IRE 不会产生任何有损害的热效应。同时,IRE 所需要的脉冲时间较短暂,消融目标区域界限清晰,因此能较为高效地治疗目标肿瘤<sup>[64]</sup>。但是 IRE 的不足之处在于对操作人员的技术要求比较高,国内尚未有标准化手术操作规范<sup>[63]</sup>。此外,现今国产的 IRE 消融

器材缺乏,导致其治疗费用较为昂贵,造成大部分患者选择受限。

近年来,IRE 在肝脏、胰腺和前列腺肿瘤中的疗效已被多个研究结果证实<sup>[16]</sup>。除了用于治疗原发性前列腺癌外,IRE 也成为了复发性前列腺癌的一种挽救性方案<sup>[65]</sup>。Bhutiani 等<sup>[66]</sup>对 55 例肝细胞癌患者开展研究,将 IRE 和 MWA 的治疗疗效进行比较,发现 IRE 组能够较大幅度改善肝脏的耐受性。此外,在治疗胰腺癌的临床应用中,IRE 也展现出了独特的技术优势<sup>[67]</sup>。与此同时,由于甲状腺的特殊解剖结构,目前仍需要大量的前瞻性研究来验证 IRE 治疗 PTMC 的安全性和有效性<sup>[62]</sup>。浙江省肿瘤医院超声诊疗中心为此开展了一项三期临床试验,现已初步取得较好结果,期待补充更多的随访数据以证实 IRE 对 PTMC 的长期疗效。

### 3 总结与展望

现今,消融技术日益成熟并呈现出加速发展的趋势,多国开展大量的临床研究以验证其长期疗效和安全性。结合目前大规模的临床研究结果,对于不耐受或者拒绝外科手术的低风险 PTMC 患者,可以根据肿瘤及患者特点来考虑合适的消融技术进行治疗。尽管部分消融技术已在 PTMC 患者中开展,但其规范化系统化治疗仍处于探索和完善阶段。期待未来能建立一个更加完备的 PTMC 消融治疗管理标准,为患者带去更安全更高效更满意的治疗方案。

利益冲突 无

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