

黄连及其方剂配伍防治糖尿病认知障碍研究进展

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[摘要] 糖尿病认知障碍(DCI)起病隐匿,呈进行性发展且不可逆,目前尚未有DCI一线治疗药物。中医药早期干预糖尿病可有效控制血糖,并改善认知障碍,具有显著优势。作为苦寒清热药代表,黄连擅长清热燥湿、化浊解毒,已被广泛用于糖尿病及阿尔茨海默病、血管性痴呆等多种认知障碍的临床防治研究。该文系统总结分析相关文献研究发现,黄连凭借其活性成分如小檗碱、槲皮素,药对如黄连-黄芩、黄连-石菖蒲、黄连-半夏、黄连-干姜,配伍方剂如葛根芩连汤、黄连解毒汤、半夏泻心汤、黄连温胆汤、交泰丸、当归六黄汤及相关中成药等在DCI防治中展现了良好的潜力,其机制可能与调节糖代谢、改善胰岛素抵抗、改善 β 淀粉样蛋白(A β)沉积及tau蛋白磷酸化、抑制神经炎症与氧化应激、调节“微生物-肠-脑轴”等有关。该文系统总结了黄连及其方剂配伍防治DCI的研究进展,以期初步阐释黄连“令人不忘”科学内涵,为其在防治DCI的临床应用提供依据。

[关键词] 黄连; 令人不忘; 糖尿病认知障碍; 组方配伍; 作用机制

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Coptidis Rhizoma and Its Prescriptions in Treatment of Diabetic Cognitive Impairment: A Review

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[Abstract] Diabetic cognitive impairment (DCI) has an insidious onset and progressive and irreversible development. There is currently no first-line treatment for DCI. Early intervention of diabetes with traditional Chinese medicine (TCM) can effectively control blood sugar and improve cognitive impairment, which has significant advantages. As a representative of bitter and cold heat-clearing medicines, Coptidis Rhizoma, known for its abilities to clear heat and dampness and remove turbidity and toxins, has been widely used in the clinical prevention and treatment of diabetes, Alzheimer's disease, vascular dementia, and other cognitive impairments. This article systematically summarized relevant literature and observed that Coptidis Rhizoma has shown good potential in the prevention and treatment of DCI with its active ingredients such as berberine and quercetin, drug pairs such as Coptidis Rhizoma-Scutellariae Radix, Coptidis Rhizoma-Acorus Tatarinowii Rhizoma, Coptidis Rhizoma-Pinelliae Rhizoma, Coptidis Rhizoma-Zingiberis Rhizoma, and prescriptions such as Gegen Qinliantang, Huanglian Jiedutang, Banxia Xiexintang, Huanglian Wendantang, Jiaotai Wan, Danggui liuhuangtang, and related Chinese patent medicines. Its mechanism may be related to regulating glucose metabolism, improving insulin resistance, improving amyloid β -protein (A β) deposition and tau protein phosphorylation, inhibiting neuroinflammation and oxidative stress, and regulating the "microbe-gut-brain axis". The

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article systematically reviewed the research progress of *Coptidis Rhizoma* and its prescriptions in the prevention and treatment of DCI, aiming to preliminarily explain the scientific connotation of *Coptidis Rhizoma* and provide a basis for its clinical application in the prevention and treatment of DCI.

[Keywords] *Coptidis Rhizoma*; impressive; diabetic cognitive impairment; prescription compatibility; mechanism

糖尿病认知障碍(DCI)是由糖尿病引起的慢性、进行性认知功能损伤,主要包括轻度认知障碍与痴呆^[1]。目前认为,在符合糖尿病诊断的基础上^[2],主诉认知功能减退,经简易智力状态检查量表(MMSE)或蒙特利尔认知评估量表(MoCA)筛查认知功能受损,排除可逆原因导致的认知功能障碍,即可诊断为DCI^[3-4]。DCI起病隐匿,具有明显的进行性和不可逆性,目前尚未有一线治疗药物^[5]。因此,寻找安全有效的治疗药物,预防及延缓DCI发生发展是当前亟待解决的问题。中医药早期干预糖尿病可有效控制血糖,并改善认知障碍,具有显著优势^[6]。

DCI属于中医“消渴”“健忘”“痴呆”等范畴。《圣济总录》载消渴日久可见“健忘怔忡”;《兰室秘藏》则言消渴“喜怒善忘”。当前,糖尿病及并发症的发病人群呈现逐年年轻化趋势。临床研究显示,糖尿病湿热、痰热体质患者认知评分显著低于其他体质患者,提示湿热、痰热是DCI的重要危险因素^[7]。湿热、痰热等浊邪久蕴,化浊生毒,阻滞脑络,损伤认知,此属“浊邪害清”(《温热论》)^[8]。因此,以“未病先防,既病防变”理念为指导,从湿热、痰热证等方向论治,是防治DCI发生发展的重要途径。

黄连为毛茛科植物黄连 *Coptis chinensis*、三角叶黄连 *C. deltoidea* 或云连 *C. teeta* 的干燥根茎,其味苦性寒,擅清热燥湿、化浊解毒。《神农本草经》载:“黄连,味苦,寒,主热气……久服,令人不忘。”《本草经疏》释曰“令人不忘者,心家无火则清,清则明,故不忘”。临床研究显示,黄连及其组方可以调节糖脂代谢,并且是治疗热毒内盛、痰热阻窍、湿热内蕴型认知障碍的重要药物^[9-10];在阿尔茨海默病(AD)、血管性痴呆等多种认知障碍疾病中发挥着关键作用^[11-16]。因此,系统总结归纳黄连及其方剂配伍改善DCI的作用机制,有助于阐释其“令人不忘”的科学内涵,为其防治DCI提供依据。

1 黄连及其活性成分改善糖尿病认知障碍的研究

1.1 黄连改善糖尿病认知障碍的活性成分 黄连现已发现主要成分170余种,包括黄酮类、生物碱类、苯丙素类等化合物^[17]。目前对黄连的药用研究主要集中于生物碱类^[18]。研究显示,黄连总生物碱可以改善2型糖尿病大鼠糖脂代谢紊乱及认知损伤,减少海马中淀粉样蛋白(A β)沉积及神经元丢失^[19]。小檗碱是黄连中含量最高的化学成分,占黄连总生物碱的5%~8%,在改善糖尿病及认知障碍的过程中发挥着重要作用^[19-20]。临床研究表明,小檗碱可以通过抗炎作用改善慢性精神分裂症患者的负面症状和认知障碍^[21]。机制研究显示,小檗碱可以改善胰岛素抵抗,调节糖脂代谢紊乱,并能穿过血脑屏障,抑制神经炎症及氧化应激等,对DCI的危险因素和发病机制具有广泛的治疗作用^[22]。

1.2 黄连改善糖尿病认知障碍的作用机制

1.2.1 调节糖代谢 葡萄糖是大脑能量的主要来源。作为

糖尿病的重要特征,长期慢性高血糖是引发DCI的关键因素^[1]。在2型糖尿病患者中,慢性高血糖会诱导脑脊液及多元醇浓度平行增加,提示神经损伤多元醇途径被激活^[23]。机制研究显示,高血糖会诱发血脑屏障通透性增加,葡萄糖转运增加^[24]。在糖尿病大鼠中发现,不同脑区的葡萄糖代谢增加近3倍^[25]。高血糖诱导的晚期糖基化终末产物(AGEs)不仅对神经元具有直接损伤^[26],还可通过与其受体(RAGE)结合,产生活性氧,诱发氧化应激,并激活丝裂原活化蛋白激酶(MAPK)、核转录因子- κ B(NF- κ B)等,激活神经炎症,诱导神经元损伤^[27]。

黄连及其有效成分在调节糖代谢方面发挥着重要作用。 α -葡萄糖苷酶是参与肠道碳水化合物水解和葡萄糖吸收的关键酶^[28],小檗碱可以通过阻断 α -葡萄糖苷酶,直接抑制肠道中糖的消化和吸收^[29]。研究表明,小檗碱、槲皮素等成分可以通过调节大脑中的葡萄糖转运蛋白(GLUT)1、GLUT3、GLUT4保护糖尿病期间的神经元损伤^[30]。同时,小檗碱可以抑制肝脏内磷酸烯醇丙酮酸羧激酶(PEPCK)和葡萄糖-6-磷酸酶(G-6-Pase),独立于胰岛素通路调节糖代谢^[31-32]。药物研究显示,小檗碱、槲皮素等黄连主要成分可以透过血脑屏障,稳定分布于脑组织中,提示其可能对DCI脑损伤有直接保护作用^[30,33-34]。

1.2.2 改善胰岛素抵抗 胰岛素对大脑葡萄糖稳态及调节大脑功能至关重要^[35]。已有证据表明,胰岛素缺乏所致的高血糖状态会影响中枢神经系统(CNS)功能^[36]。研究显示,糖尿病患者小脑、脑桥、基底神经节和海马体中胰岛素降低,额叶皮层和海马体中神经元大量死亡^[25]。而慢性外周高胰岛素血症会下调血脑屏障胰岛素受体,并降低CNS的胰岛素水平^[37]。在此基础上,胰岛素受体底物(IRS)激活的磷酸肌醇3-激酶(PI3K)/蛋白激酶B(Akt)途径受到抑制,糖原合成酶激酶-3 β (GSK-3 β)活性上调,进而通过影响CNS中GLUT3的转运水平和A β 蛋白清除率,诱导认知能力下降^[38-39]。可认为,中枢神经系统的胰岛素抵抗是DCI的危险因素。

研究表明,黄连总生物碱显著增加IRS、PI3K和Akt磷酸化,减少A β 蛋白沉积,并上调2型糖尿病大鼠海马中GSK-3 β 的活性,在防治DCI中发挥重要作用^[19-20]。另一项研究显示,小檗碱通过激活PI3K/Akt和MAPK途径,抑制糖尿病大鼠前额叶皮层中的炎症介质释放和胰岛素抵抗,进而改善认知损伤^[40]。此外,脂蛋白受体相关蛋白1(LRP1)也在调节中枢胰岛素信号和葡萄糖转运中起着关键作用^[41]。槲皮素通过调节LRP1,影响胰岛素信号关键分子IRS、PI3K和Akt,发挥调节大脑葡萄糖稳态的优势^[30]。

1.2.3 改善A β 沉积及tau蛋白磷酸化 A β 沉积及tau蛋白磷酸化是AD的典型病理特征,也是DCI的常见病理特征^[42]。A β 沉积和过度磷酸化的tau(p-tau)在触发凋亡级联,

导致神经退化和认知功能改变上发挥着重要作用^[43]。研究显示,慢性高血糖可以通过多种途径影响A β 和tau磷酸化的产生和清除^[42]。胰岛素降解酶(IDE)是一种主要介导胰岛素降解与A β 清除的酶,而 β -位淀粉样前体蛋白裂解酶1(BACE1)是A β 产生过程中的关键酶。糖尿病慢性高血糖及高胰岛素血症,一方面可以竞争性地抑制IDE,从而降低A β 清除率;另一方面,通过诱导胰岛素抵抗、AGEs/RAGE等途径,激活BACE1,增加A β 分泌与p-tau蓄积^[44-45]。

研究证实,小檗碱可以通过激活Akt/GSK-3 β ,增加IDE水平,降低认知障碍小鼠海马与原代海马神经中A β_{42} 和p-tau,改善小鼠的空间学习和记忆缺陷^[46-48]。在糖尿病大鼠中发现,小檗碱可以激活海马PI3K/Akt,抑制NF- κ B途径,调节胰岛素抵抗与神经炎症,减少A β_{42} 、p-tau水平,恢复神经可塑性、胆碱能和单胺能功能^[40-49]。此外,研究表明,小檗碱能够通过促进小胶质细胞与自噬清除、调节内质网应激、直接激活BACE1等途径改善AD小鼠A β 与p-tau沉积,证实其具有独立于调节糖代谢与胰岛素抵抗之外的神经保护作用^[50-51]。

1.2.4 抑制氧化应激与神经炎症 氧化应激、神经炎症是DCI的重要病理机制。糖尿病慢性高血糖环境下,一方面,ROS产生增加,诱导胰岛素信号通路失活,导致神经细胞的脂质过氧化,并损害CNS抗氧化损伤的能力^[22,52];另一方面,小胶质细胞等神经胶质细胞被激活,释放促炎和细胞毒性因子,导致MAPK、AGEs/RAGE、NF- κ B等信号通路激活,诱导炎症级联反应,进而介导神经元与突触损伤^[53-54]。此外,神经炎症的发生发展与内质网(ER)应激密切相关,高葡萄糖会增加ER压力水平,其通路的激活与糖尿病诱发的神经元凋亡和认知能力下降相关^[55-56]。

研究显示,小檗碱可以下调RAGE和p38 MAPK的表达,抑制促炎因子释放,降低A β 沉积和p-tau蛋白表达,缓解神经元的氧化应激和炎症损伤^[22]。小檗碱及槲皮素均可以增加糖尿病小鼠海马体中沉默信息调节因子1(SIRT1)表达,抑制ER应力相关蛋白肌醇需求酶-1 α (IRE-1 α)等水平,并减少NF- κ B核易位及肿瘤坏死因子- α (TNF- α)释放,改善海马突触损伤与认知障碍^[57-58]。此外,小檗碱可通过调节Akt/GSK-3 β 通路缓解灰质和白质的病理损伤,促进白质重组,抑制脑萎缩进程,进而改善糖尿病小鼠认知功能障碍^[59]。

2 黄连药对改善糖尿病认知障碍的研究

药对是在中医理论指导下,根据疾病证候选择性应用两味中药,以达到减毒增效作用的配伍方法。药对作为中药配伍的最小单位,体现了最基本的配伍理论和方剂核心内涵^[60]。因此,关注黄连药对相关研究,能够极大地拓展对DCI的认识与研究思路。

2.1 黄连-黄芩 黄连-黄芩药对出自《伤寒论》葛根芩连汤、半夏泻心汤等,《医宗金鉴》将黄连-黄芩配伍称为“二黄汤”,是经典的清热解毒药对,被广泛用于糖尿病及认知障碍研究中。研究显示,黄连-黄芩能够改善糖尿病前期大鼠的胰岛 β 细胞功能,增加胰腺甜味受体(STR)信号通路蛋白表达,改善胰岛素分泌紊乱^[61]。另一项研究表明,黄连-黄芩主要成分小檗碱、黄芩苷,可以通过调整肠道菌群多种菌属相对丰

度和粪便代谢产物表达,进而发挥对湿热内蕴型T2DM小鼠的治疗作用^[62]。尽管对黄连-黄芩改善DCI的相关研究较少,但有证据表明,黄连-黄芩能够调节认知障碍小鼠的肠道菌群,抑制小胶质细胞Toll样受体4(TLR4)/髓样分化因子88(MyD88)/NF- κ B信号通路^[63],提示黄连-黄芩可能通过调控“微生物-肠-脑轴”,改善神经炎症,进而改善认知损伤。

2.2 黄连-石菖蒲 黄连-石菖蒲的配伍源于DCI“痰-浊-毒”毒损脑络发病的核心理论^[64]，“痰浊致毒”是DCI发生发展的重要病机。痰浊蕴结脑窍,诱导A β 、炎性因子、过氧化物等“毒邪”聚集,致使脑络损伤,神机受损,表现为神经元、突触损伤等,故其治疗的根本大法是“化痰解毒通络”^[65]。黄连尤擅清热、化浊、解毒,合石菖蒲之化痰、通窍,为“痰-浊-毒”理论指导下的经典配伍。研究表明,小檗碱、 β -细辛醚可能是黄连-石菖蒲防治DCI的潜在成分,该配伍能显著调控胆碱能通路,促进脑组织中乙酰胆碱(ACh)合成,并通过IRS/PI3K/Akt通路调节糖脂代谢及胰岛素抵抗,减少A β 沉积,改善认知功能障碍^[64,66]。

2.3 黄连-半夏 黄连-半夏药对源自《伤寒论》半夏泻心汤,为治疗中焦痞满的经典药对。中焦为一身气机升降之枢纽。糖尿病患者饮食不节,脾胃纳化失常,清气不升,则清窍失养;痰湿阻滞,浊气不降,上扰清窍,导致认知功能下降^[8]。黄连-半夏辛开苦降,清消结合,可清热、燥湿、化痰,俾浊降则清自升,而清窍得养。研究表明,黄连与半夏配伍可调节糖脂代谢异常,改善DCI小鼠糖代谢紊乱与认知功能,并抑制海马神经元凋亡及炎症因子表达。尽管关于黄连-半夏治疗DCI的相关研究较少,但仍不失为黄连药对的相关研究提供思路与参考^[67]。

2.4 黄连-干姜 黄连-干姜药对源于《伤寒论》半夏泻心汤、黄连汤等经方,适用于中焦寒热错杂证。药代动力学研究显示,干姜与黄连相配,能够极大地缩短黄连有效成分如小檗碱的入血时间及血药半衰期,起到协同增效作用^[68]。研究证实,黄连-干姜药对能够调节糖尿病糖脂代谢紊乱,改善认知及学习能力,恢复脑脊液中A β_{42} 、ACh、p-tau水平;同时,该药对能够改善糖尿病小鼠大脑皮质神经元及海马结构损伤,影响脑组织中M1型小胶质细胞极化进程^[69-70]。

3 黄连组方在改善糖尿病认知障碍的应用

3.1 葛根芩连汤 葛根芩连汤出自《伤寒论》,由葛根、黄芩、黄连、炙甘草四药组成。葛根芩连汤擅清热燥湿,化浊解毒,为《2型糖尿病病证结合诊疗指南(2020)》湿热蕴结证推荐方^[71]。临床研究显示,葛根芩连汤加减可以显著改善阳明湿热瘀阻型血管性痴呆患者中医证候表现,增加MMSE评分,其临床症状及认知功能较西药组明显改善^[72]。实验研究显示,葛根芩连汤能够调节胰岛功能,改善胰岛素抵抗,缓解氧化应激及炎症反应,并通过肠道菌群调节糖脂代谢水平,在糖尿病及其并发症的治疗中效果显著^[73-74]。

在葛根芩连汤的基础上,王飞教授基于糖尿病“气阴两虚,瘀毒伤络”的理论,对葛根芩连汤进行加减优化(葛根、黄芩、黄连、石斛、熊胆粉、三七粉),证实葛根芩连汤加减通过促进血脑屏障修复,改善海马区缺血缺氧状态及神经元损

伤,从而改善认知功能障碍^[75]。进一步研究发现,葛根芩连汤能够降低糖尿病大鼠海马白细胞介素(IL)-1 β 、TNF- α 表达,并减少海马组织CA1区神经元细胞凋亡,其机制可能与抑制NF- κ B及Ras基因同源物A(Rho A)/Rho激酶(ROCK)通路激活有关^[76]。

3.2 黄连解毒汤 黄连解毒汤出自东晋葛洪《肘后备急方》,由黄连、黄芩、黄柏、栀子组成,是血管性痴呆、AD毒盛虚极证的指南推荐方^[77]。临床研究显示,黄连解毒汤联合多奈哌可以显著改善AD患者的整体认知功能(MMSE评分)、日常生活活动能力(ADL评分)、精神行为症状(NPI评分)及氧化应激指标[核因子E₂相关因子2(Nrf2)、丙二醛(MDA)、超氧化物歧化酶(SOD)]^[78-79];黄连解毒汤联合针刺可以显著改善热毒内盛证血管性痴呆患者的认知功能及中医证候评分,并降低超敏C反应蛋白水平,证实了其在痴呆患者中的认知保护作用。药代动力学研究提示,黄连解毒汤的提取物小檗碱、黄芩苷、小檗红碱、汉黄芩素等能够透过血脑屏障,在大脑海马区广泛分布,其成分可能与黄连解毒汤抗DCI的机制相关^[80]。

目前关于黄连解毒汤调节DCI研究多从神经炎症角度认识。研究显示,黄连解毒汤能诱发自噬,抑制NOD样受体蛋白3(NLRP3)炎症小体激活,并上调脑源性神经营养因子(BDNF)表达,改善DCI大鼠突触损伤与认知功能下降^[6]。另一项研究表明,黄连解毒汤通过抑制AGEs/RAGE/NF- κ B途径调节葡萄糖代谢,抑制小胶质细胞向促炎型极化,从而缓解神经炎症,改善糖尿病小鼠认知损伤^[81]。此外,代谢组学揭示了黄连解毒汤对DCI的调节作用可能通过甘油磷脂代谢、脂肪酸 β 氧化、亚油酸代谢、葡萄糖代谢、谷胱甘肽代谢等糖脂代谢途径来实现^[82]。

3.3 半夏泻心汤 半夏泻心汤出自《伤寒论》,由半夏、黄连、黄芩、干姜、炙甘草、大枣、人参组成,为《2型糖尿病病证结合诊疗指南(2020)》脾虚胃热证推荐方^[71]。《景岳全书》曰:“消渴病,其为病之肇端,皆膏粱肥甘之变,酒色伤劳之过,皆富贵人病之而贫贱者少有也。”过食肥甘,化生内热,久则损伤脾气,导致脾虚胃热、寒热错杂之证。网络药理联合实验研究提示,半夏泻心汤主要成分包括黄芩素、槲皮素等,通过调节c-Jun氨基末端激酶(JNK)/SIRT1/叉头框转录因子O3a(FoxO3a)信号通路,在控制突触传导、抑制细胞凋亡、减少氧化应激和神经炎症反应方面表现出了对DCI的治疗潜力^[83-84]。然而,受限于数据来源等影响,生物信息技术仍未能精准地预测半夏泻心汤所有可能的干预途径。因此,从多角度认识半夏泻心汤调节DCI的机制就显得尤为重要。有学者基于“微生物-肠-脑”轴,发现半夏泻心汤改善糖尿病大鼠认知功能,其机制可能与调节肠道菌群、抑制神经细胞自噬,并激活大脑蛋白激酶A(PKA)/cAMP反应元件结合蛋白(CREB)信号通路有关^[85]。

3.4 黄连温胆汤 黄连温胆汤出自清·陆廷珍《六因条辨》,系《千金要方》中温胆汤衍化而来。此方由黄连、半夏、陈皮、竹茹、茯苓、生姜、枳实、炙甘草组成,具有清热化痰之效。糖尿病患者过食肥甘,化痰生湿,郁久化热,痰湿热阻,上蒙清

窍,损伤认知。《石室秘录》指出:“痰气最盛,呆气最深”,认为“治呆无奇法,治痰即治呆也”。黄连温胆汤正合痰热之机,因而被广泛用于DCI防治^[9]。临床研究显示,黄连温胆汤可有效改善代谢综合征合并认知障碍患者的糖脂代谢紊乱及认知功能,也能改善痰浊阻窍型轻度认知障碍患者的认知评分及中医证候评分^[86-87]。

马世平教授关注于黄连温胆汤对DCI的干预作用,从A β 沉积、胰岛素抵抗、细胞凋亡、炎症损伤等角度对其相关机制进行了系统的研究。研究显示,黄连温胆汤能明显改善糖尿病小鼠的糖脂代谢紊乱,减轻高糖诱导的认知功能障碍和神经元受损^[88]。进一步机制研究发现,黄连温胆汤可抑制海马BACE1表达,减少A β 沉积;并增加胰岛素受体(InsR)表达,改善中枢胰岛素抵抗^[89]。同时,黄连温胆汤可以通过下调海马神经元胱天蛋白酶-3(Caspase-3)、B细胞淋巴瘤-2(Bcl-2)、Bcl-2相关X蛋白(Bax)等表达^[90],抑制海马神经凋亡^[91],从而改善DCI大鼠/小鼠认知能力下降。除此之外,促炎细胞因子释放的抑制及JNK-IRS1/PI3K通路的修复也被认为是黄连温胆汤神经保护的机制基础^[92]。

3.5 交泰丸 交泰丸首载于《韩氏医通》,由黄连、肉桂2味药物组成。刘完素认为:“故治消渴者,补肾水阴寒之虚,而泻心火阳热之实”,交泰丸取黄连苦寒之性降心火,择肉桂辛热之效暖肾水,共奏心肾共调之功,是为用治消渴良方^[93]。交泰丸中主要效应成分包括小檗碱、黄连碱、肉桂酸、肉桂醛等,在抗炎、保护胰岛 β 细胞、改善糖脂代谢和胰岛素抵抗方面发挥糖尿病治疗作用^[94]。

交泰丸在黄连-肉桂10:1的配比下能够最大程度改善DCI小鼠胰岛素抵抗及糖脂水平,通过调节p-Akt, p-GSK-3 β 水平,抑制p-tau,并减少海马A β 沉积,恢复神经元功能障碍和突触可塑性^[95]。另一项研究显示,交泰丸可以抑制糖尿病小鼠海马及脂多糖诱导的小胶质细胞激活和神经炎症,并调节Janus激酶(JAK)/信号传导和转录激活因子3(STAT3)信号通路,进一步揭示了交泰丸改善DCI可能的作用机制^[96]。

3.6 当归六黄汤 当归六黄汤出自《兰室秘藏》,由当归、生地黄、熟地黄、黄柏、黄芩、黄连、黄芪组成。五脏阴虚,虚火内生是DCI的重要病机^[97]。《温病条辨》曰:“水能令人清,火能令人昏。”精亏则脑髓不充,火动则神机被扰。当归六黄汤滋阴与泻火并进,阴固而水能制火,热清则耗阴无由,正合DCI阴虚热扰之病机。

研究表明,当归六黄汤能够调节葡萄糖和胰岛素水平,减少脂肪生成和积累,保护和修复胰岛 β 细胞^[98-99]。另有研究表明,当归六黄汤能改善DCI小鼠的认知功能和海马神经元损伤,上调海马组织IRS1/PI3K/Akt通路,改善中枢胰岛素抵抗,调节糖脂代谢紊乱,缓解氧化应激与神经炎症^[100]。

3.7 其他 除上述黄连配伍的经典名方外,尚有部分中成药被应用于DCI的防治中,因其相关研究较为零散,故在此仅列举具有代表性的个别药物,详见增强出版附加材料。

黄地安消胶囊为安徽中医药大学第一附属医院院内制剂,由黄连、生地黄、葛根、麦冬、枇杷叶、三七组成,研究表明,黄地安消胶囊能下调葡萄糖调节蛋白78(GRP78)、转录

因子C/EBP同源蛋白(CHOP)、Bax、Caspase-12、Caspase-9、Caspase-3蛋白及基因表达,调控凋亡信号,抑制内质网应激以改善海马神经细胞的损伤,清除A β 沉积,明显改善大鼠的学习记忆能力^[101-102]。益糖康胶囊为石岩教授基于“脾虚”病机所创制的经验方,由黄连、黄精、丹参、黄芪、红参、五味子等12味中药组成,实验证实,益糖康可通过上调Nrf2、溶质载体家族7成员11(SLC7A11)和谷胱甘肽过氧化物酶4(GPX4)表达,抑制铁死亡进程;同时,下调NLRP3蛋白表达,促进海马小胶质细胞/星形胶质细胞向M2型/A2型转化,进而抑制炎症反应,对神经元和突触可塑性产生保护作用^[103-105]。脑复聪颗粒为北京协和医院张孟仁教授研发,由黄连、石菖蒲、茯苓、人参、丹参、何首乌、水蛭组成,具有补益脾肾、活血化瘀功效;临床研究显示,脑复聪联合针刺可调节患者神经递质及血糖水平,改善脑代谢紊乱,显著提高DCI患者的整体认知功能(MMSE评分)^[106];实验表明,脑复聪能够抑制CHOP/JNK及嘌呤能离子通道型受体7(P2X7R)/NLRP1/Caspase-1途径,降低ROS水平,增加线粒体膜电位,改善糖尿病大鼠的认知功能及海马神经元损伤^[107-108]。

4 小结与展望

新近研究显示,预计到2050年,全球罹患糖尿病的人群将达13.1亿^[109]。研究显示,与非糖尿病患者相比,糖尿病患者轻度认知障碍和痴呆的患病风险分别增加1.44和2.14倍^[110];而痴呆已成为糖尿病患者的第二大死因^[111]。在糖尿病患者中发现,认知障碍与较差的健康相关生活质量、较高的卫生服务利用率及支出显著相关,给患者及医疗系统带来沉重的经济负担^[112]。因此,作为糖尿病的慢性、严重并发症,DCI值得研究者予以关注。DCI发病机制复杂,且尚未有一线治疗药物。而基于整体观念和辨证论治指导下的中药及复方则具独特优势。

目前,中医药临证治疗DCI多从虚论治,以健脾益气、补肾填精为主^[113]。随着生活水平的提高及饮食结构的改变,糖尿病及DCI发病逐渐年轻化。研究显示,糖尿病发病年龄较小与发生痴呆的风险较高显著相关。多食少动是糖尿病的重要病因^[114]。《黄帝内经·素问·奇病论》曰:“肥者令人内热,甘者令人中满,故其气上溢,转为消渴。”饮食肥甘,酿生湿热、痰热,蓄久形成糖浊。现代研究显示,高热量、高脂肪的饮食结构、饮酒、嗜甜食等因素均可导致糖尿病患者湿热内蕴症状加重^[115]。湿热内蕴证、痰热中阻证等已成为糖尿病早期患者的重要证候^[70]。湿热、痰热等浊邪久蕴,化浊生毒,损伤脑络,导致认知功能下降。课题组前期提出,从“浊邪蕴窍”到“浊毒损窍”,实际上是量变到质变的过程^[8]。因此,清热燥湿、化浊解毒等“祛邪”法,既可及时祛除病理产物,防止邪气化毒损伤脑窍;又可以恢复气血运行,以濡养脑窍。黄连为临床治疗糖尿病的常用药物,尤擅清热燥湿、化浊解毒。经总结黄连有效成分、药对、配伍方剂及相关成药研究发现,黄连及其方剂配伍在防治DCI时具有多成分、多靶点及多途径等特点,可以通过调节糖脂代谢紊乱、改善胰岛素抵抗、改善A β 沉积及tau蛋白磷酸化、抑制神经炎症与氧化应激、减少神经元凋亡、恢复神经可塑性等多个方面,

发挥DCI防治作用。

然而,尽管近年来黄连有效成分、药对、配伍方剂防治DCI的研究有了一定进展,但仍存在以下问题:①黄连及其组方配伍防治DCI的临床研究较为缺乏;②由于自身较差的溶解性和显著的首关消除,黄连有效成分生物利用度较低,其体内药动学及脑内分布还尚未完全研究清楚;③黄连活性成分研究主要以小檗碱、槲皮素为主,而对黄连碱、巴马汀等成分干预DCI的作用及机制研究有待补充;④黄连配伍组方有效成分复杂,作用靶点众多,针对复方发挥药效的关键成分研究较少,有效成分多不明确。

综上所述,黄连及其方剂配伍在改善DCI方面具有广泛的研究与应用前景。在黄连“令人不忘”的中医理论指导下,探讨黄连及其配伍干预DCI的现代生物学认识,不仅有助于阐明黄连“令人不忘”的科学内涵,也为进一步深入研究黄连防治DCI的作用机制提供思路和指导。

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