

临床论著

腰椎固定融合术后脊柱-骨盆矢状位序列对相邻节段退变的影响:6年以上随访研究

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【摘要】目的:拟通过至少6年临床资料随访,探讨腰椎融合术后脊柱-骨盆矢状位序列因素对相邻节段退变(ASD)的影响。**方法:**回顾性分析2002年1月~2006年12月于我院骨科诊断为腰椎管狭窄症而行后路减压固定融合术患者72例,其中男33例,女39例,术时年龄 55.9 ± 9.2 岁(31~71岁),术后平均随访 86.8 ± 7.5 个月(72~120个月)。影像学资料包括术前腰椎MRI、正侧屈伸位X线片,末次随访腰椎MRI、全脊柱正侧位X线片;利用院内PACS系统测量骨盆入射角(PI)、骶骨倾斜角(SS)、骨盆倾斜角(PT)、腰椎前凸角(LL)、融合节段LL、剩余LL等。利用MRI与X线片判定术后ASD情况。以106例无症状中老年志愿者全脊柱X线片测量结果作为对照,比较腰椎管狭窄症患者术前及术后远期随访脊柱-骨盆矢状位序列参数,分析术后脊柱-骨盆矢状位序列的变化与ASD的相关性。**结果:**共50例患者(69.4%,50/72)末次随访时出现ASD;ASD组与无ASD组患者术前及末次随访骨盆矢状位参数(PI,SS,PT)与对照组比较均无显著性差异($P>0.05$)。术前LL,ASD组患者($32.6\pm15.4^\circ$)、无ASD组($37.3\pm12.0^\circ$)显著小于对照组($49.2\pm9.1^\circ$)($P<0.05$);末次随访时,无ASD组LL显著大于ASD组($42.8\pm10.5^\circ$ vs $36.3\pm14.0^\circ$, $P<0.05$),但仍显著小于对照组($P<0.05$)。42例未融合至S1节段的患者中31例末次随访时出现ASD,30例融合至S1节段的患者中19例出现ASD,尽管两组间ASD发生率并无显著性差异($P=0.341$),但对于融合至S1组的患者,出现ASD的患者融合节段更长,LL显著减小,剩余LL显著减小。**结论:**①术后远期LL与ASD的发生存在相关性,充分改善LL可能会降低ASD发生率;②尽管融合至S1不是ASD发生率增加的独立危险因素,但对于融合至S1的患者,融合节段越长,术后腰椎前凸曲度越小,剩余的腰椎前凸曲度越平直,会增加ASD发生率。

【关键词】腰椎融合术;脊柱-骨盆矢状位;相邻节段退变

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Effect of spinopelvic sagittal alignment on the development of adjacent segment degeneration after posterior lumbar fusion: investigation on cases with a minimum of 6 years of follow-up/LI Weishi, SUN Zhuoran, GUO Yang, et al//Chinese Journal of Spine and Spinal Cord, 2018, 28(10): 865-872

[Abstract] **Objectives:** To investigate the effect of postoperative spino-pelvic sagittal alignment on the development of adjacent segment degeneration(ASD) after posterior lumbar fusion in a long-term follow-up. **Methods:** By retrieving the medical records from January 2002 to December 2006 in our hospital, 72 patients [33 males, 39 females; mean age 55.9 ± 9.2 years(31~71 years) at surgery] were enrolled, with mean 86.8 ± 7.5 months(72~120 months) follow-up after surgery. Preoperative and final follow-up radiographs and MRI images were evaluated. Pelvic incidence(PI), sacral slope(SS), pelvic tilt(PT), lumbar lordosis(LL), fusion lumbar lordosis and residual lumbar lordosis were examined on radiographical images by using PACS. ASD were evaluated on MRI and X-ray radiographs. 106 asymptomatic middle-aged and elderly volunteers were recruited as control to analyze the characteristics of spinopelvic sagittal alignment after posterior lumbar fusion in a long-term follow-up. The correlation between ASD and changes of sagittal alignment were analyzed. **Results:** At final follow-up, degenerative changes of adjacent segment were found in 50 cases (69.4%, 50/72). There was no significant difference in pelvic sagittal parameters(PI, PT and SS) among ASD, N-ASD and control group. LL at preoperation and at final follow-up in both ASD ($32.6\pm15.4^\circ$) and N-ASD ($37.3\pm12.0^\circ$) group was

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significantly less than that in control group ($49.2^\circ \pm 9.1^\circ$) ($P < 0.05$). Significant difference between N-ASD and ASD group on final follow-up radiographs were seen for LL ($42.8^\circ \pm 10.5^\circ$ vs $36.3^\circ \pm 14.0^\circ$, $P < 0.05$). Among the 42 patients who received lumbar floating fusion, 31 patients had ASD at final follow-up. Among the 30 patients received lumbosacral fusion, 19 patients had ASD at final follow-up. There was no significant difference between these two groups in ASD ($P = 0.341$). For patients with lumbosacral fusion, ASD was seen for postoperative longer fusion segments, less total and residual lumbar lordosis. **Conclusions:** (1) There is correlation between the postoperative long-term lumbar lordosis and development of ASD. Obtaining appropriate lumbar lordosis is important for preventing ASD. (2) Extended fusion to the sacrum does not independently enhance the risk of ASD. But for patients with lumbosacral fusion, longer fusion segments, less total and residual lumbar lordosis will increase the risk.

【Key words】 Lumbar fusion; Spino-pelvic sagittal alignment; Adjacent segment degeneration

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尽管腰椎固定融合手术可取得肯定的远期临床疗效^[1],但融合术后融合节段相邻节段退变(Adjacent segment degeneration, ASD)始终困扰着研究者,对其病因和处理仍存在争议^[2,3]。ASD为一种影像学改变,表现为手术相邻节段的椎间盘信号降低、椎间隙狭窄、新骨赘形成或原有骨赘增加等改变,其发生率为11%~100%^[4]。当ASD引起新的临床症状,就会形成相邻节段病变(Adjacent segment disease, ASDis),严重影响手术的预后和患者的生活质量,甚至需要再次翻修手术治疗,而翻修手术往往难以取得与初次手术相同的临床疗效。有研究表明,患者年龄、性别、术前相邻节段退行性改变与融合长度等多种因素与ASD的形成有关^[5,6]。但这些危险因素大多是由患者个体条件所决定,无法由外科医生通过手术改变。脊柱-骨盆矢状位序列对维持人体矢状位平衡起着重要作用,同时也参与多种脊柱疾病的发病机制^[7],但其对ASD的影响目前尚无定论。本研究拟对腰椎融合术后患者进行脊柱-骨盆矢状位参数影像学长期随访研究,并以无症状中老年人群为对照,探讨腰椎融合术后脊柱-骨盆矢状位序列对ASD发病机制的影响。

1 资料与方法

1.1 一般资料

回顾性分析2002年1月~2006年12月在我院因腰椎管狭窄症行后路减压、椎弓根螺钉内固定和植骨融合术的患者,共随访72例影像学资料完整患者,其中男33例,女39例,术时平均年龄 55.9 ± 9.2 岁(31~71岁),术后随访 86.8 ± 7.5 个月(72~120个月)。其中8例术前存在退变性腰椎滑脱。根据末次随访时融合节段的相邻节段是否出

现退变,将72例患者分为ASD组和无ASD组。同时将72例患者依据是否融合至S1分为融合至S1组和未融合至S1组。

选取106例无症状中老年志愿者(62.4 ± 5.2 岁)作为对照^[8],志愿者入组标准:(1)年龄 ≥ 55 岁;(2)近3个月无明显腰腿痛,并除外慢性腰腿痛、严重骨质疏松、既往脊柱畸形、脊柱手术和骨盆、髋关节、下肢疾病史;(3)全脊柱正、侧位X线片无脊柱滑脱表现,冠状位脊柱侧凸Cobb角 $< 10^\circ$,无矢状位后凸畸形。

无症状中老年志愿者与上述随访患者共分为对照组、ASD组与无ASD三组。收集患者术前腰椎MRI、正侧屈伸位X线片,末次随访时腰椎MRI、全脊柱正侧位X线片及对照组的全脊柱正侧位X线片。

1.2 手术方法

所有患者腰椎管狭窄症诊断明确,手术均在全麻下进行,采用经典的后路腰椎固定融合术,后路腰椎椎弓根螺钉内固定、椎板切除减压,术中注意保护头侧相邻节段关节突及关节囊,融合方式采用椎体间、横突间、后外侧植骨融合。

1.3 影像学测量与评估

收集上述研究对象的影像学资料,根据Horton等^[9]采用的摄片体位方法,末次随访时拍摄全脊柱正侧位X线片。通过院内影像归档与通信系统(picture archiving and communication systems, PACS)进行相关影像学参数测量。测量并记录对照组及患者术前、术后随访时的影像学参数:(1)骨盆入射角(pelvic incidence, PI):经S1上终板中点做一条垂直于终板的直线,再经S1上终板的中心和股骨头中心点做一条直线,两条直线间的夹角;(2)骨盆倾斜角(pelvic tilt, PT):经过S1

上终板中点以及两侧股骨头中心连线中点的直线与铅垂线间的夹角;(3)骶骨倾斜角(sacral slope, SS);S1终板与水平线间的夹角;(4)腰椎前凸角(lumbar lordosis, LL):L1上终板与S1上终板间夹角;(5)融合节段LL;融合节段头端椎体上终板与尾端椎体下终板间(融合至S1时,为骶骨终板)的夹角;(6)上剩余LL:L1上终板与融合节段头端椎体上终板间的夹角;(7)下剩余LL:融合节段尾端椎体下终板与骶骨终板间的夹角。

MRI评估:(1)采用Pfirrmann分级^[10]判断椎间盘退变情况(图1^[11]),该分级分为5级,术前为I、II级,术后变为III级及以上为出现ASD;或术前信号为III级及以上,术后退变加重1级或2级亦定为出现ASD。(2)根据末次随访MRI有无较术前相邻节段关节突内聚、黄韧带肥厚或椎间盘突出致中央管或神经根管狭窄,判断是否存在椎管狭窄。X线评估^[12]:(1)伸屈位相邻节段椎体前后滑移超过3mm,或者椎体活动角度大于10°;(2)终板硬化,退变性侧凸;(3)椎间隙高度丢失超过10%;(4)新骨赘形成或原有骨赘增加3mm以上。MRI、X线片符合以上任意一条即可诊断为ASD。

1.4 统计方法

应用SPSS 17.0软件对测量结果进行统计学处理,对患者术前、末次随访时和对照组的PI、

SS、LL、融合节段LL及融合节段上、下剩余LL进行描述性分析;应用单因素方差分析,将ASD组、无ASD组与对照组进行组间比较;依据是否融合至S1进行分组,比较两组间ASD发生率,并应用独立样本t检验,分别进行各组内出现ASD患者矢状位序列对比,P<0.05为有统计学意义。

2 结果

末次随访时共50例患者出现ASD或退变较术前进展,发生率为69.4%,其中25例单纯出现在上相邻节段,10例单纯出现在下相邻节段,15例同时出现在上下相邻节段。7例ASD组患者(9.7%)在随访过程中再次出现下肢神经症状,诊断为相邻节段病变,其中2例进行了翻修手术。ASD组年龄64.8±8.6岁(38~77岁),无ASD组年龄58.5±8.7岁(48~74岁)。ASD组融合节段数为2.1±0.9(1~4),无ASD组融合节段数为1.6±0.6(1~3),应用独立样本t检验,无显著性差异($t=-1.961, P=0.054$)。ASD组与无ASD组患者PI分别为46.2°±10.0°与47.1°±11.0°,术前与末次随访时的SS、PT、LL见表1。

106例无症状中老年人群LL 49.2°±9.1°,PI 46.5°±7.6°,SS 33.3°±9.5°,PT 13.2°±6.6°^[8](图2),应用单因素方差分析,ASD组、无ASD组与对照组对比结果见表2。



图1^[11] 椎间盘Pfirrmann分级:Ⅰ级,椎间盘均质,色亮白,高度正常;Ⅱ级,椎间盘非均质,有水平带;Ⅲ级,椎间盘非均质,浅灰色;Ⅳ级,椎间盘非均质,灰或黑色;Ⅴ级,椎间盘非均质,黑色,高度降低

Figure 1^[11] Pfirrmann Grade I: the structure of the disc is homogeneous, with bright hyperintense white signal intensity any normal disc height. Grade II: the structure of the disc is inhomogeneous, with the hyperintense white signal. Grade III: the structure of the disc is inhomogeneous, with an intermittent gray signal intensity. Grade IV: the structure of the disc is inhomogeneous, with a hypointense dark gray signal intensity. Grade V: the structure of the disc is inhomogeneous, with a hypointense black signal intensity

表1 72例患者矢状位参数测量结果

($\bar{x}\pm s$, °)

Table 1 Descriptive statistics of sagittal parameters in 72 patients

分组 Group	n	骶骨倾斜角/SS		骨盆倾斜角/PT		腰椎前凸角/LL	
		术前 Pre-operation	末次随访 Final follow-up	术前 Pre-operation	末次随访 Final follow-up	术前 Pre-operation	末次随访 Final follow-up
ASD组/ASD group	50	29.9±12.8	28.1±8.8	16.0±12.4	17.6±10.3	32.6±15.4	36.3±14.0
无ASD组/N-ASD group	22	31.5±10.0	30.2±10.2	15.4±12.3	16.7±7.6	37.3±12.0	42.8±10.5

应用单因素方差分析(S-N-K检验)两两对比发现,末次随访时,无ASD组平均年龄显著小于ASD组与对照组($P<0.05$),ASD组与对照组间年龄无显著性差异($P>0.05$)。三组PI间无显著性差异($P>0.05$)。ASD组、无ASD组患者术前LL无显著性差异($P>0.05$),但均小于对照组($P<0.05$)。末次随访时,无ASD组LL显著大于ASD组($P<0.05$),但仍显著小于对照组($P<0.05$)。患者术前、末次随访时的SS、PT与对照组比较均无显著性差异($P>0.05$)。

将72例患者依据是否融合至S1进行分组。共42例未融合至S1节段,其中31例末次随访出现ASD。30例融合至S1节段,19例末次随访出现ASD。两组间ASD发生率无显著性差异(卡方检验, $P=0.341$)。未融合至S1组中,ASD患者与无ASD患者术前上相邻椎间盘分级(2.6 ± 0.9 vs 2.6 ± 0.7 , $P=0.928$)与下相邻椎间盘分级(2.4 ± 0.5 vs 2.6 ± 0.8 , $P=0.466$)相比均无显著性差异。融合



图2 69岁无症状男性,全脊柱侧位X线片示LL 48.1°, PI 47.2°, SS 34.8°

Figure 2 Whole spine lateral X-ray of asymptomatic male aged 69 years, LL 48.1°, PI 47.2°, SS 34.8°

至S1组中,ASD患者与无ASD患者术前上相邻椎间盘分级(2.6 ± 0.7 vs 2.6 ± 0.8 , $P=0.838$)无显著性差异。各组内参数比较见表3。对于未融合至S1的患者,出现ASD患者与未出现ASD患者PI、末次随访LL、融合节段LL、上剩余LL、下剩余LL间均无显著性差异($P>0.05$)。但对于融合至S1的患者,末次随访时出现ASD患者与未出现ASD患者相比,ASD患者平均融合节段显著长于无ASD患者($P<0.05$),末次随访时LL、上剩余LL显著减小($P<0.05$)(图3)。

3 讨论

腰椎融合术后ASD现象在越来越多的研究中得到证实。无论是动物实验^[13,14],还是在体的模拟实验^[15~17],都从生物力学角度验证了脊柱融合术后分布于相邻节段的应力会显著增加,提示ASD更多与融合因素本身相关。ASD的发生率很大程度上由不同的检查标准来决定,使得每个研究报告的ASD发生率差别很大。先前大部分研究判定ASD仅采用X线片(UCLA分级)标准,较少研究同时采用MRI评估ASD。然而,相邻节段椎间盘退变与椎管狭窄的严重程度无法仅通过X线片评价^[18]。在Lund与Oxland的研究中^[4],通过X线片检查发现ASD发生率为57%,但增加MRI后,ASD发生率可达到81%。一些研究^[19~22]同时采用了X线片与MRI对腰椎融合术后进行5年以上远期随访,ASD发生率在36%~84%,ASDis发生率在0~24%。本研究ASD与ASDis的发生率在其范围内(ASD 69.4%,ASDis 9.7%)。与国内同领域的研究^[11,23]相比,本研究同时采用了X线片与MRI进行ASD评价,可以更客观地反映出远期随

表2 ASD组、无ASD组与对照组参数对比(Student-Newman-Keuls检验) ($\bar{x}\pm s$)
Table 2 The comparison of parameters in three groups (Student-Newman-Keuls test)

分组 Group	n	末次随访 年龄(岁) Final follow-up age	末次随访骨 盆入射角(°) Final follow-up PI	骶骨倾斜角/SS(°)		骨盆倾斜角/PT(°)		腰椎前凸角/LL(°)	
				术前 Pre-operation	末次随访 Final follow-up	术前 Pre-operation	末次随访 Final follow-up	术前 Pre-operation	末次随访 Final follow-up
ASD组 ASD group	50	64.8 ± 8.6	46.2 ± 10.0	29.9 ± 12.8	28.1 ± 8.8	16.0 ± 12.4	17.6 ± 10.3	$32.6\pm15.4^{\textcircled{2}}$	$36.3\pm14.0^{\textcircled{2}\textcircled{3}}$
无ASD组 N-ASD group	22	$58.5\pm8.7^{\textcircled{1}}$	47.1 ± 10.0	31.5 ± 10.0	30.2 ± 10.2	15.4 ± 12.3	16.7 ± 7.6	$37.3\pm12.0^{\textcircled{2}}$	$42.8\pm10.5^{\textcircled{2}}$
对照组 Control group	106	62.4 ± 5.2	46.5 ± 7.6	33.3 ± 5.5	33.3 ± 5.5	13.2 ± 6.6	13.2 ± 6.6	49.2 ± 9.1	49.2 ± 9.1

注:①与ASD组及对照组比较, $P<0.05$;②与对照组比较, $P<0.05$;③与无ASD组比较, $P<0.05$

Note: ①Comparison with ASD group and control group, $P<0.05$; ②Comparison with control group, $P<0.05$; ③Comparison with N-ASD group, $P<0.05$

表 3 融合至 S1 组与未融合至 S1 组组内各参数比较

(x±s)

Table 3 Comparison of radiographic parameters in floating fusion and lumbosacral fusion groups

组别 Group	样本量 Sample size	融合节段数 Fusion length	PI(°) PI(°)	末次随访时 Final follow-up				PT(°) PT(°)
				LL(°) LL(°)	固定节段 LL Fusion LL(°) Cranial residual LL	上剩余 LL(°) Caudal residual LL	下剩余 LL(°) Caudal residual LL	
未融合至 S1 Lumbar floating fusion								
ASD 组 ASD group	31	1.7±0.8	47.3±9.5	39.5±12.3	17.6±7.0	10.1±10.4	11.9±6.1	17.7±10.3
无 ASD 组 N-ASD group	11	1.4±0.7	47.7±9.0	43.1±10.8	17.0±6.3	12.7±8.3	14.0±6.7	18.2±8.2
融合至 S1 Lumbosacral fusion								
ASD 组 ASD group	19	2.6±0.8 ^①	44.4±10.7	31.2±15.4 ^①	19.2±10.9	9.4±9.8 ^①	—	17.4±10.6
无 ASD 组 N-ASD group	11	1.9±0.5	46.6±13.2	42.5±10.6	17.5±6.3	23.9±9.2	—	15.3±7.2

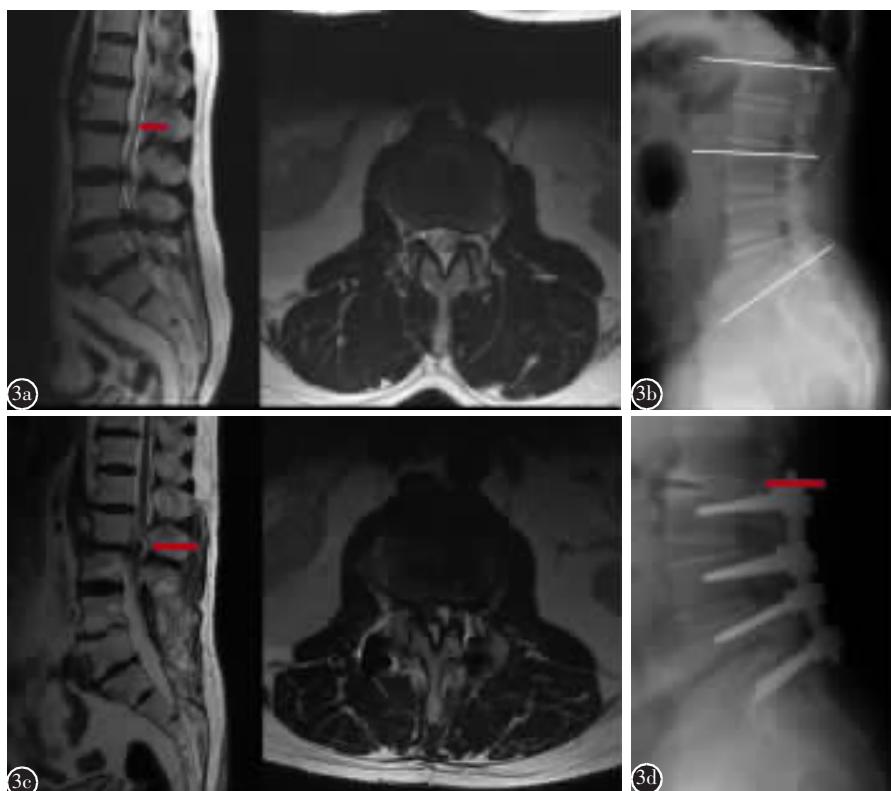
注:①与无 ASD 组比较 $P<0.05$ Note: ①Comparison with N-ASD group, $P<0.05$ 

图 3 68岁男性,L3~S1 固定融合术后 7 年随访 **a** 术前腰椎 MRI 矢状面及 L2/3 横断面示 L2/3 节段无明显狭窄 **b** 术前腰椎 X 线片示 LL 43.1°,L3~S1 前凸 41.0° **c** 术后 7 年腰椎 MRI 矢状位及 L2/3 横断面示 L2/3 椎间盘突出 **d** 术后 7 年腰椎 X 线片示 L2 椎体出现后滑移,融合节段前凸 41.7°,LL 33.2°,整体 LL 较术前明显丢失近 10°

Figure 3 Male aged 68 years, 7 years follow-up after L3~S1 fusion **a** Preoperative sagittal MRI and cross-section MRI of L2/3, with no obvious stenosis of L2/3 **b** Preoperative lumbar X ray, LL 43.1°, lordosis of fusion segments 41.0° **c** Lumbar MRI at 7 years follow-up, cross-section MRI showed L2/3 disc herniation **d** Lumbar X ray at 7 years follow-up, with a posterior slip of L2 vertebral. Lordosis of fusion segments was 41.7°, LL was 33.2°, with a loss of total LL nearly 10° than that of pre-operation

访患者相邻节段的退变程度。

尽管发生 ASD 的病因始终存在争议,包括年龄、性别、术前邻近节段退行性改变、固定长度、融合方式、矢状位序列等在内的多种因素都可能参与了 ASD 的病因^[6]。但这些潜在的病因中,矢状位序列变化是可由脊柱外科医师术中掌控的因素。过往的研究大多集中在相邻节段活动范围增加和应力集中后的生物力学改变上,而较少关注脊柱-骨盆矢状位序列方面的特点^[24,25]。由于骨盆矢状位形态序列与某些脊柱疾病的发病机制密切相关,如腰椎峡部裂型滑脱^[26]、特发性脊柱侧凸^[27]等,所以有必要深入讨论脊柱-骨盆矢状位形态序列对 ASD 的影响。Anandjiwala 等^[28]前瞻性对 68 例腰椎后外侧融合术患者进行了 5 年以上随访,发现 20.6%(14/68)会出现末次随访时 ASD,ASD 组与无 ASD 组对比,术前 LL (33.4° vs 42.1°, $P=0.059$) 与术后 LL(37.0° vs 43.2°, $P=0.089$) 均比无 ASD 组要小,尽管未达到统计学差异,但可以发现明显减小的趋势,而两组间术后融合节段曲度无差异 (20.47° vs 19.76°, $P=0.922$)。Rothenfluh 等^[29]对 45 例腰椎融合术患者进行回顾性分析,发现相邻节段病变患者整体腰椎前凸曲度显著小于无相邻节段病变组 ($48.1^\circ \pm 12.5^\circ$ vs $53.8^\circ \pm 10.8^\circ$, $P=0.012$)。Djurasic 等^[30]对 51 例腰椎融合术后 ASD 的患者进行分析,发现 ASD 组患者术后整体腰椎前凸显著小于无 ASD 组 (46.3° vs 51.9° , $P<0.05$)。但上述研究仅对比了 ASD 组与无 ASD 组相互间腰椎前凸变化,均缺少正常组作为对照。而在另一篇回顾性研究中,Rahm 与 Hall^[31]对 49 例融合术后患者进行了 2 年的随访,采用 Bernhardt 与 Bridwell^[32]的研究结果作为对照组,发现 ASD 组术后腰椎前凸曲度较正常值减少近 31° ,相比较而言,未出现 ASD 的患者腰椎前凸曲度较正常值减少近 24° ,未达到统计学差异。但该研究中的正常对照组为青少年人群,而非无症状中老年人群。由于手术治疗的腰椎退变性疾病患者大多为中老年人,中老年人矢状位序列具有其自身特点^[8],只有与其对比,才能真实反映出 ASD 患者矢状位序列变化。本研究中,我们采用无症状中老年人群作为对照组,发现无论是 ASD 组还是无 ASD 组,患者术前腰椎前凸均小于对照组,说明退变性疾病患者腰椎前凸显著小于无症状人群,在末次随访时,尽管两组患者腰椎前凸都

有不同程度的恢复,但仍小于对照组,ASD 组腰椎前凸更是显著小于无 ASD 组与对照组,提示术后末次随访腰椎前凸的减小,会增加出现 ASD 的风险。分析其原因,脊柱固定融合术后,由于融合节段成为僵硬的整体,代偿性的力学改变必然出现在相邻节段,导致应力分布增加与小关节间接触位置的改变^[33]。腰椎前凸减小会导致重力线前移,在相邻的未融合运动节段,这会使得作用于椎间盘的应力载荷前移并且集中,加速退变的进程。Akamaru 等^[34]通过尸体研究发现,当融合节段曲度和腰椎前凸减小时,头侧相邻节段在屈-伸活动时活动范围显著增加,导致节段不稳定。因此,充分恢复腰椎前凸曲度是必要的,尤其是在下腰椎区域。由于下腰椎曲度占整体腰椎前凸的大部分^[35],而退变性疾病的责任节段大部分位于下腰椎,所以充分恢复下腰椎的曲度能进一步改善整体腰椎前凸的曲度,可能会减少 ASD 的风险。

脊柱与骨盆构成了一个铰链式的结构支撑着人体日常的生理活动,相邻前凸、后凸节段间存在着密切的代偿关系^[35]。骨盆会通过旋转代偿腰椎或胸椎曲度的变化,以维持局部和整体的平衡。但对于腰骶固定融合术的患者,由于术后骶骨连同部分腰椎构成一个整体,骨盆丧失了单独代偿腰椎曲度的能力。Ha 等^[36]进行了腰骶固定后的动物尸体研究,发现无论是屈伸还是侧屈运动,相邻节段的活动范围均有所增加,过伸时增加 62%,屈曲增加 85%,左侧屈增加 30%,右侧屈增加 26%。腰骶固定后会不会增加 ASD 的风险,值得深入讨论。Alentado 等^[37]对 137 例腰椎融合术患者进行回顾性研究,13 例在末次随访时出现 ASD,其中 4 例固定至骶骨,124 例未出现 ASD,40 例固定至骶骨,通过对比发现固定至骶骨并不是 ASD 的独立影响因素($P=0.9$)。Kumar 等^[38]对 83 例腰椎融合术后患者进行回顾性研究,发现 16 例融合至 S1 的患者出现 ASD,15 例未融合至 S1 的患者出现 ASD,是否融合至 S1 并不是影响 ASD 发生的危险因素。本研究也得出了相同的结论,依据是否融合至 S1 进行分组后,两组间 ASD 的发生率并没有显著性差异。提示腰骶固定融合并不是影响 ASD 的独立因素。但我们进一步分析融合至 S1 组出现 ASD 患者的影像学特点发现,融合至 S1 后,出现 ASD 的患者融合节段较长,而且整体腰椎前凸曲度较小,伴随剩余节段腰椎前凸曲度较

小,腰椎较平直。Liao 等^[39]对 107 例患者进行 5 年以上随访,将患者分为固定至 S1 组与未固定至 S1 组,同样发现对于固定至 S1 组,融合节段越长,发生 ASD 的风险相应越高。Sears 等^[40]的研究也得出了相同结论。分析其原因,当固定至骶骨后,固定节段越长,整体曲度变得越平直,腰椎固定节段与骶骨共同组成无法运动的整体,使得机体活动时,腰椎剩余的上相邻节段会通过更多的代偿运动以尽量维持生理性的活动范围。当固定至 S1 后,越长的融合节段,形成越长的杠杆力臂,会导致近端相邻节段的应力分布明显增加^[41,42],尤其是患者仅剩下了头侧的运动节段,骨盆失去了独立的代偿能力,使得应力更为集中^[43]。更多的活动与应力分布,加速了相邻节段的不稳定与退变进程。

本研究尚有一些局限性。首先,该研究为回顾性研究,无法将各组间年龄进行严格匹配。ASD 组患者平均年龄大于无 ASD 组患者,似乎无法排除年龄因素对 ASD 的影响。但是,我们的对照组年龄与 ASD 组无明显差异,三组间术前 LL 两两对比,LL 的变化并没有体现出随着年龄变化后的相同趋势。未来可以进一步设计前瞻性的研究,将匹配患者年龄,排除年龄因素的干扰。其次,鉴于回顾性研究的局限性,我们缺少患者术后早期站立位全脊柱 X 线的影像资料,而采用了患者末次随访的影像学参数进行了分析,无法体现矢状位序列对 ASD 的前瞻性影响。但有研究表明,腰椎融合术后的不同远期随访时间,整体腰椎前凸不会出现显著变化^[44],本研究末次随访的数据依旧可以体现矢状位序列对 ASD 的影响。再次,该研究样本量较小,出现相邻节段病变患者数量较少,无法单独讨论相邻节段病变的特点。尽管尚存在如上的局限性,本研究的意义在于,通过 MRI 与 X 线片共同诊断患者术后远期随访 ASD,并首次通过设立无症状中老年人群作为对照,通过分析矢状位序列特点,显示出术后腰椎前凸曲度的降低,特别是对于需要进行腰骶固定融合的患者,在进行长节段固定融合时,越平直的腰椎前凸曲度和剩余腰椎前凸曲度,会增加远期出现 ASD 的风险。

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