

临床论著

零切迹融合器在颈前路椎间盘切除融合术治疗多节段脊髓型颈椎病中的应用价值

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【摘要】目的:探讨零切迹融合器(Zero-P VA)在颈前路椎间盘切除融合(anterior cervical disectomy and fusion, ACDF)术治疗多节段脊髓型颈椎病(multilevel cervical spondylotic myelopathy, MCSM)中的应用价值。**方法:**回顾性分析 2018 年 8 月~2020 年 8 月期间在我科行 ACDF 治疗的 55 例 MCSM 患者的临床资料,其中应用 Zero-P VA 治疗 27 例(Zero-P 组),应用传统融合器+钛板固定治疗 28 例(钛板组)。观察两组患者的手术时间、术中出血量、融合节段椎间高度和颈椎 Cobb 角。采用颈部疼痛视觉模拟评分(VAS)、颈椎功能障碍指数(neck disability index, NDI)、日本骨科协会(Japanese Orthopaedic Association, JOA)评分、Bazaz 吞咽困难评分及植骨融合率进行临床疗效对比分析。**结果:**55 例患者均顺利完成手术并获得完整随访,随访时间 14~35 个月,平均 23.17 ± 4.75 个月。与术前相比较,两组患者术后 VAS 评分、NDI 指数和 JOA 评分均有明显的改善,差异均有统计学意义($P < 0.05$),但两组之间无统计学差异($P > 0.05$)。Zero-P 组手术时间 3 节段为 95.47 ± 5.24 min,4 节段为 115.12 ± 7.53 min,较钛板组手术时间(3 节段 130.85 ± 6.97 min 和 4 节段 155.69 ± 9.28 min)显著缩短,差异有统计学意义($P < 0.05$);术中出血量两组差异无统计学意义($P > 0.05$)。Zero-P 组颈椎 Cobb 角在术后 3 个月时为 $16.71^\circ \pm 1.28^\circ$,末次随访时为 $15.69^\circ \pm 0.26^\circ$,均优于术前($10.53^\circ \pm 1.36^\circ$),差异有统计学意义($P < 0.05$);钛板组颈椎 Cobb 角术后 3 个月时为 $16.95^\circ \pm 2.64^\circ$,末次随访时为 $16.01^\circ \pm 1.71^\circ$,优于术前($10.67^\circ \pm 0.41^\circ$),差异有统计学意义($P < 0.05$);而两组之间各时间点颈椎 Cobb 角的差异均无统计学意义($P > 0.05$)。Zero-P 组术后 1 例(3.70%)发生椎前异物感,术后 1 个月完全消失,无吞咽困难发生,未见相邻节段退变加速。钛板组术后 4 例(14.29%)发生椎前异物感,于术后 2~4 个月逐渐消失;术后 3 例(10.71%)发生吞咽困难,其中轻度 1 例(3.57%),中度 2 例(7.14%),3 例患者在术后 3~6 个月逐渐好转,1 例(3.57%)出现声音嘶哑,于术后 2 年取出钛板,患者声音嘶哑无明显改善;2 例(7.14%)患者出现相邻节段(C2/3)退变加速,均未出现临床症状,予以保守观察。两组的吞咽困难发生率及相邻节段退变发生率间存在显著性差异($P < 0.05$)。术后 3 个月时,Zero-P 组植骨融合率为 88.89%,钛板组植骨融合率为 92.86%,末次随访时两组患者均达到有效植骨融合,但两组间植骨融合率无明显差异($P > 0.05$)。两组患者均无硬脊膜损伤、食管损伤、神经根损伤、椎前血肿、伤口感染、假关节形成等并发症。**结论:**在 ACDF 治疗多节段脊髓型颈椎病中,使用零切迹融合器能够达到与传统融合器+钛板固定一致的临床疗效,和重塑颈椎曲度并恢复颈椎间隙高度的作用,并且手术时间短,术后患者吞咽困难、相邻节段退变发生率低。

【关键词】多节段脊髓型颈椎病;颈前路椎间盘切除融合术;零切迹颈椎间融合器;钛板

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[Abstract] **Objectives:** To investigate the application value of Zero-P VA in anterior cervical disectomy and fusion(ACDF) in the treatment of multilevel cervical spondylotic myelopathy(MCSM). **Methods:** 55 patients with MCSM who underwent multilevel ACDF in our department from August 2018 to August 2020 were analyzed

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retrospectively, including 27 cases treated with Zero-P VA(Zero-P group) and 28 cases treated with traditional fusion cage+titanium plate(titanium plate group). The main indicators of observation were operative time, intraoperative blood loss, intervertebral height of fusion segment, and cervical Cobb angle. The clinical efficacy was compared and analyzed by neck pain visual analogue scale(VAS), neck disability index(NDI), the Japanese Orthopaedic Association(JOA) score, Bazaz dysphagia score, and bone graft fusion rate. **Results:** All 55 patients completed the operation successfully and finished the follow-up. The follow-up period was 14–35 months, with an average of 23.17 ± 4.75 months. After operation, the VAS, NDI, and JOA scores of both groups were significantly improved comparing with those before operation($P < 0.05$), while there was no significant difference of each indicator between the two groups ($P > 0.05$). The operative time of three segments was 95.47 ± 5.24 mins and four segments was 115.12 ± 7.53 mins in Zero-P group, which were significantly shorter than those of 130.85 ± 6.97 mins for three segments and 155.69 ± 9.28 mins for four segments in titanium plate group ($P < 0.05$), while the intraoperative blood loss between the two groups had no significant difference ($P > 0.05$). The Cobb angle of cervical spine in Zero-P group was $16.71 \pm 1.28^\circ$ at 3 months after operation and $15.69 \pm 0.26^\circ$ at final follow-up, significantly improved than the $10.53 \pm 1.36^\circ$ before operation($P < 0.05$). In the titanium plate group, the Cobb angle was $16.95 \pm 2.64^\circ$ at 3 months after operation and $16.01 \pm 1.71^\circ$ at final follow-up, also significantly improved than the $10.67 \pm 0.41^\circ$ before operation. Yet, the Cobb angles between the two groups at each time point had no significant differences($P > 0.05$). In Zero-P group, 1 case(3.70%) developed prevertebral foreign body sensation and disappeared completely in one month after operation, and no case of dysphagia occurred or accelerated degeneration of adjacent segments. In the titanium plate group, 4 cases (14.29%) developed prevertebral foreign body sensation and gradually disappeared in 2–4 months after operation; Dysphagia occurred in 3 cases(10.71%), including mild(1 case, 3.57%) and moderate(2 cases, 7.14%) symptoms, which gradually improved in 3–6 months after operation, and 1 case (3.57%) occurred hoarseness, whose titanium plate was removed 2 years after operation, and the hoarseness did not improve significantly; Two cases(7.14%) had accelerated degeneration of adjacent segments(C2/3) without any clinical symptoms, thereby they were observed conservatively. There were significant differences in the incidence of dysphagia and adjacent segment degeneration between the two groups ($P < 0.05$). At 3 months after operation, the bone graft fusion rate was 88.89% in Zero-P group and 92.86% in titanium plate group, and at final follow-up, both groups of patients achieved effective bone graft fusion. However, there was no significant difference in the rate of bone graft fusion between the two groups ($P > 0.05$). There were no complications such as dural tear, esophageal injury, nerve root injury, prevertebral hematoma, wound infection or pseudoarthrosis in both groups. **Conclusions:** In the treatment of multilevel cervical spondylotic myelopathy through ACDF, Zero-P VA can achieve similar clinical effect as of the traditional fusion cage plus titanium plate, restore the lordosis of the cervical spine and the height of cervical intervertebral space effectively, which also advantages in shorter operative time, rarer postoperative dysphagia and lower incidence of adjacent segment degeneration.

[Key words] Multilevel cervical spondylotic myelopathy; Anterior cervical discectomy and fusion(ACDF); Zero-profile; Titanium plate

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多节段脊髓型颈椎病 (multilevel cervical spondylotic myelopathy, MCSM) 是指影像学上表现为三个或三个以上节段连续或非连续的颈椎间盘退变和继发性退变, 导致脊髓和硬膜囊受压, 进而引起相应的临床症状。目前对于涉及单节段或双节段的脊髓型颈椎病 (cervical spondylotic myelopathy, CSM) 手术治疗已经达成共识, 一般认为颈前路椎间盘切除融合术 (anterior cervical

discectomy and fusion, ACDF) 或颈前路椎体次全切除融合术 (anterior cervical corpectomy and fusion, ACCF) 即可获得良好的临床效果。然而, 在治疗三节段或四节段的 MCSM 手术方法选择上仍存在争议^[1-3]。

根据患者的临床症状、压迫部位和术者经验, 可选择前路、后路或前后联合入路手术方式, 每一种入路都有其独特的优缺点^[3,4]。多节段颈椎前路

椎间盘切除融合 (multi-level anterior cervical discectomy and fusion, mACDF)、ACCF 和混合的前路减压融合 (hybrid anterior cervical decompression and fusion, HDF) 等前路技术已被证明在脊髓减压中是可靠和有效的，在恢复和维持颈椎矢状位力线上取得了良好的临床效果。然而，传统颈前路钛板常突出于颈椎椎体的前缘，影响颈椎前区的软组织，可导致颈椎前部的异物感、吞咽困难和食管损伤等并发症^[5-7]。且长钛板多节段融合也增加了融合器下沉、螺钉松动、断裂等相关并发症的发生率，相邻节段退变的发生率亦随着融合节段增加而升高^[8]。

为了比较 Zero-P VA 和传统融合器+钛板固定治疗多节段脊髓型颈椎病的临床效果，本研究收集了 2018 年 8 月~2020 年 8 月期间在我科分别接受零切迹融合器和传统融合器+钛板固定治疗的 55 例多节段脊髓型颈椎病患者，进行回顾性对比研究，探讨零切迹融合器在治疗多节段脊髓型颈椎病中的临床价值，报道如下。

1 资料和方法

1.1 病例纳入及排除标准

纳入标准：(1) 确诊为多节段脊髓型颈椎病，经严格保守治疗症状无明显改善，并有加重趋势；(2) 影像学表现为 3 或 4 个节段脊髓前方明显受压；(3) 颈椎后凸 Cobb 角≤20°；(4) 采用 ACDF 手术，内固定系统为 Zero-P VA 或颈椎前路钛板系统。

排除标准：(1) 先天性颈椎畸形或颈椎骨折、脱位；(2) 发育性颈椎椎管狭窄；(3) 合并各种类型颈椎后纵韧带骨化和/或黄韧带钙化；(4) 合并颈椎肿瘤、感染；(5) 既往有颈椎手术史。

1.2 一般资料

本研究经医院伦理委员会审查通过。收集 2018 年 8 月~2020 年 8 月期间在我科接受手术治疗的 55 例多节段脊髓型颈椎病患者进行回顾性分析研究，其中 Zero-P VA 手术治疗 27 例 (Zero-P 组)，颈前路钢板内固定系统治疗 28 例 (钛板组)，病变节段为 3 或 4 个节段，严格按照标准纳入。其中男性 29 例，女性 26 例，年龄 64.45±4.97 岁，所有患者随访时间为 23.17±4.75 个月 (14~35 个月)。55 例患者均表现为典型的脊髓型颈椎病，双下肢行走乏力，踩棉花感，肌张力增高，

Babinski 征阳性，双手握力下降，Hoffmann 征阳性。两组患者均表现为中度功能障碍。其中 Zero-P 组 3 个节段 23 例 (85.19%)，4 个节段 4 例 (14.81%)；颈前路钢板组 3 个节段 25 例 (89.29%)，4 个节段 3 例 (10.71%)。所有患者术前均无吞咽困难。

两组患者在年龄、性别构成、融合节段和随访时间的差异均无统计学意义 ($P>0.05$)，具有可比性，见表 1。

1.3 手术方法

全身麻醉成功后，患者取仰卧位，肩部下放肩垫，颈后放置颈垫，头部置于头圈上，使颈部后仰，沙垫置于头部两侧固定。双上肢置于身体两侧固定。取颈前右侧单 (3 节段 ACDF) 或双横切口 (4 节段 ACDF)，长约 5.0 cm。切开皮肤，沿皮下组织分别向上下游离，显露颈阔肌，纵行切开颈阔肌，沿胸锁乳突肌内缘纵行切开深筋膜，在内脏鞘和血管鞘之间钝性分离至椎前筋膜，用“S”拉钩将气管、食道拉向左侧，纵行切开椎前筋膜，显露椎体及椎间盘。尽量靠近终板植入定位钉，透视确认无误后，用尖刀紧贴上、下终板切开纤维环，用髓核钳摘除部分椎间盘。于处理间隙上、下椎体置入 Casper 撑开器撑开椎间隙，交替用枪钳和刮匙去

表 1 两组之间患者的基本资料比较 ($\bar{x}\pm s$)

Table 1 Comparison of basic data between the two groups

	Zero-P 组 Zero-P group	钛板组 Titanium group	P 值 P value
n	27	28	
性别(男/女) Gender(M/F)	15/12	14/14	0.23
年龄(岁) Age(year)	65.32±4.21	63.57±5.72	0.31
随访时间(月) Follow-up	23.62±5.92	22.71±3.58	0.43
手术节段/Surgery segments			
3 节段 3 segments	23	25	0.24
C3/4	12	13	
C4/5	23	25	
C5/6	23	25	
C6/7	11	12	
4 节段 4 segments	4	3	0.45
C3/4	4	3	
C4/5	4	3	
C5/6	4	3	
C6/7	4	3	

除椎间盘组织及上、下软骨终板,显露后纵韧带,仔细操作,切忌损伤椎体骨性终板以免融合器下沉。用神经钩向上挑起后纵韧带,尖刀切断,用刮匙逐步去除增生、肥厚的后纵韧带及上位椎体后下缘、下位椎体后上缘增生骨赘,彻底减压,使硬膜囊充分膨隆。利用 Casper 撑开器适当撑开椎间隙,以恢复椎间隙高度和此节段曲度。依次试模测量后确定合适高度的椎间融合器。取相同大小的融合器,填塞适量自体骨和同种异体骨(北京鑫康辰医学科技发展有限公司,中国)混合细小颗粒。零切迹组将零切迹融合器(Zero-P VA, Depuy, 美国)安装于把持器上,将融合器置于椎间隙中间部位,透视确认融合器深度合适,颈椎曲度恢复满意后,取出 Casper 撑开器及撑开螺钉,沿预留钉道分别拧入两枚 14~16mm 自锁固定螺钉。钛板组采用相同方法,将 PEEK 椎间融合器(Cougar, Depuy, 美国)置入椎间隙中间部位,透视确认融合器位置满意后取出 Casper 撑开器,同法分别处理其余椎间隙,选择合适长度的钛板置于椎体前,调整位置满意后于椎体拧入 14mm 或 16mm 锁定螺钉并锁紧。

生理盐水冲洗伤口,仔细止血后留置负压引流管一根,逐层关闭伤口。伤口敷料包扎后颈托固定患者颈部。

于术后 24h 颈托保护下地活动,于术后第 2~3 天拔除引流管,复查颈椎正侧位 X 线。术后颈托常规保护 6~8 周,避免颈部过度活动,避免手提或肩扛重物。嘱患者活动双肩关节,并行颈背部肌肉适度等长收缩锻炼。

1.4 观察指标与统计学方法

分别于术后 3、6 和 12 个月进行定期随访,以后每半年随访 1 次,采用门诊随访方式。收集和记录患者的一般资料、手术前后症状变化、围手术期并发症发生情况及愈后。分别在术前、术后 3 个月和末次随访时进行功能评价,包括视觉疼痛模拟评分(visual analog scale, VAS)、颈部功能障碍指数(neck disability index, NDI)、日本骨科学会(Japanese Orthopaedic Association, JOA)量表评分、Bazaz 吞咽困难评分和植骨融合率,并记录入档。其中 JOA 评分以 17 分法评估颈脊髓神经功能,最低 0 分,最高 17 分,分值越低表示功能障碍程度越重。随访时拍摄颈椎 X 线片和颈椎 CT 三维重建进行影像学评估。在 X 线片上测量颈椎间

隙高度(椎体中部测量相邻椎体上、下终板之间的距离,再取各融合节段的平均值)和颈椎 Cobb 角(C2 椎体下终板与 C7 椎体下终板延长线垂线的夹角)^[9],在颈椎 CT 三维重建影像上分析植骨融合率。

采用 SPSS 22.0 软件(SPSS Inc, Chicago, IL)进行统计学分析,符合正态分布的计量资料以均数±标准差($\bar{x} \pm s$)表示,组间比较采用独立样本 t 检验,组内不同时间点比较采用方差分析,以 $P < 0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。

2 结果

2.1 手术情况

55 例患者分别接受 Zero-P VA 和前路钛板 ACDF,手术均顺利完成。两组患者均于术后 24h 佩戴颈托下地活动,于 48~72h 拔除引流管。两组患者住院时间为 3~4d,平均 3.5d。Zero-P 组手术时间明显少于钛板组,差异有统计学意义($P < 0.05$),而两组在术中出血和住院时间上差异无统计学意义($P > 0.05$,表 2)。

2.2 影像学改善情况

所有患者手术前后影像学观察的各项指标均得到明显改善,见图 1。

颈椎侧位 X 线测量结果显示术后 3 个月时手术节段 Zero-P 组颈椎间隙高度平均增加 3.45mm(C3/4)、3.25mm(C4/5)、3.39mm(C5/6)、3.31mm(C6/7),颈椎 Cobb 角平均增加 6.18°;钛板组颈椎间隙高度平均增加 3.75mm(C3/4)、3.45mm(C4/5)、3.07mm(C5/6)、3.20mm(C6/7),颈椎 Cobb 角平均增加 6.28°。两组在末次随访时,颈椎间隙高度和颈椎 Cobb 角均较术后 3 个月时有所丢

表 2 两组之间围手术期相关指标对比 ($\bar{x} \pm s$)

Table 2 Comparison of perioperative related indexes between the two groups

	Zero-P 组 Zero-P group	钛板组 Titanium group	P 值 P value
n	27	28	
手术时间(min)/Operation time			
3 节段/3 segments	95.47±5.24	130.85±6.97	0.014
4 节段/4 segments	115.12±7.53	155.69±9.28	0.026
术中出血量(ml)/Blood loss			
3 节段/3 segments	54.34±4.38	57.68±3.86	
4 节段/4 segments	76.55±0.57	80.72±1.38	
住院时间(d) Hospital stays			
	3.5±0.16	3.5±0.27	

失,差异无统计学意义($P>0.05$),但仍较术前有明显改善,差异有统计学意义($P<0.05$)。两种手术方式均能有效改善椎间隙高度和颈椎前凸角,差异无统计学意义($P>0.05$,表3)。

根据颈椎CT三维重建影像分析显示,术后3个月时,Zero-P组植骨融合率为88.89%,钛板组植骨融合率为92.86%,末次随访时两组患者均达到有效植骨融合,但两组间植骨融合率无显著性差异($P>0.05$,表4)。

2.3 临床疗效评价

术后55例患者均获得完整随访,随访时间为14~35个月,Zero-P组平均随访 23.62 ± 5.92 个月,钛板组平均随访 22.71 ± 3.58 个月,两组的随访时间无明显差异($P>0.05$)。与术前相比,两组在术后3个月及末次随访时疼痛VAS评分、NDI和JOA评分均有明显改善,差异有统计学意义($P<0.05$),

患者由术前中度功能障碍改善为术后轻度功能障碍;但两组之间差异无统计学意义($P>0.05$,表5)。

2.4 并发症

Zero-P组术后1例(3.70%)发生椎前异物感,术后1个月完全消失,无吞咽困难发生,未见相邻节段明显退变。钛板组术后4例(14.29%)发生椎前异物感,于术后2~4个月逐渐消失;术后3例(10.71%)发生吞咽困难,其中轻度1例(3.57%),中度2例(7.14%),3例患者在术后3~6个月逐渐好转,1例(3.57%)出现声音嘶哑,于术后2年拆除钛板,患者声音嘶哑无明显改善;2例(7.14%)患者出现相邻节段(C2/3)退变,均未出现临床症状,予以保守观察。两组患者在吞咽困难发生率上差异有统计学意义($P<0.05$,表4)。两组患者均无硬脊膜损伤、食管损伤、神经根损伤、椎前

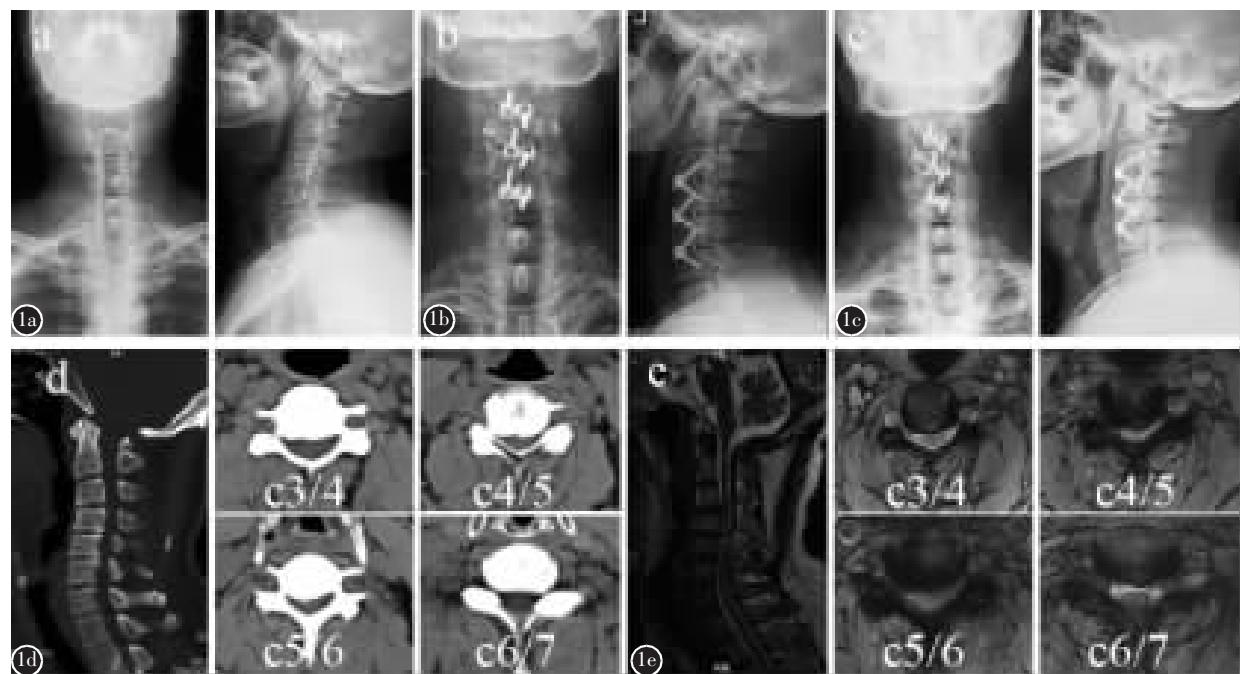


图1 男性,67岁,术前颈痛VAS为4分,JOA评分9分,NDI 33.5% **a** 术前颈椎正侧位X线示颈椎退变,反曲 **b** 术后3个月颈椎正侧位片,颈椎曲度改善,椎间隙高度恢复 **c** 末次随访颈椎正侧位片,颈椎曲度有部分丢失,相邻节段未见明显退变 **d** 术前CT示颈椎反曲,C3/4、C4/5、C5/6椎间隙水平椎管变窄 **e** 术前MRI提示颈椎退变反曲,C3/4、C4/5、C5/6椎间盘突出,相应节段脊髓受压、变性,椎管狭窄

Figure 1 A male, 67 years old, neck pain VAS 4 points before operation, JOA score 9 points, NDI 33.5% **a** The anterior and lateral X-ray of cervical spine showed cervical degeneration and retroflexion before operation **b** Three months after operation, the cervical curvature was improved and the height of cervical space was restored **c** At final follow-up, the cervical curvature was partially lost, and there was no obvious degeneration in adjacent segments **d** Preoperative CT showed cervical retroflexion, C3/4, C4/5 and C5/6 spinal canal narrowing **e** Preoperative MRI showed cervical degeneration, retroflexion, C3/4, C4/5 and C5/6 disc herniation, compression and degeneration of corresponding spinal cord and spinal canal stenosis

血肿、伤口感染和假关节形成等并发症。

3 讨论

CSM 是各种颈椎病中对人体危害最大的一种类型。原则上,一旦诊断明确应当及时行手术治疗,解除脊髓压迫,以保护和改善脊髓神经功能。由于压迫多来自脊髓前方,因此,手术治疗方式主要为颈椎前路。传统的 mACDF、ACCF 和 HDF 治疗多节段脊髓型颈椎病(MCSM)需要前路钛板。

前路锁定钛板的应用可有效提高颈椎融合节段的稳定性和坚固性,并大大提高融合率。另外,前路钛板可以保持颈椎的生理曲度,一定程度上防止椎间高度的丢失。然而,随着前路钛板长度的增加,钉-板界面的应力相应增加,增加了置入物松动、移位和骨折的风险。此外,应用长节段钛板术后,患者容易出现异物感、吞咽困难甚至食管漏,同时 ASD 的发病率也明显增加^[5-7,10-12]。

Scholz 等^[13]在 2009 年首次报道了零切迹椎

表 3 手术前后 X 线各观察指标对比

($\bar{x} \pm s$)

Table 3 Comparison of X-ray observation indexes before and after operation

	Zero-P 组/Zero-P group			钛板组/Titanium plate group		
	术前 Preoperation	术后 3 个月 3 months post-op	末次随访 Final follow-up	术前 Preoperation	术后 3 个月 3 months post-op	末次随访 Final follow-up
椎间隙高度(mm)/Intervertebral height						
C3/4	3.19±0.37	6.64±0.46 ^①	6.35±0.63 ^①	3.02±0.42	6.77±1.08 ^①	6.46±0.55 ^①
C4/5	3.26±0.26	6.51±0.52 ^①	6.27±0.85 ^①	3.17±0.71	6.62±0.53 ^①	6.33±0.31 ^①
C5/6	3.03±0.17	6.42±0.19 ^①	6.31±0.53 ^①	3.09±0.63	6.16±0.53 ^①	6.02±0.47 ^①
C6/7	3.07±0.52	6.38±0.51 ^①	6.14±0.44 ^①	3.11±0.85	6.31±0.74 ^①	6.26±0.67 ^①
颈椎 Cobb 角(°) Cobb angle	10.53±1.36	16.71±1.28 ^①	15.69±0.26 ^①	10.67±0.41	16.95±2.64 ^①	16.01±1.71 ^①

注:①与术前比较 $P<0.05$

Note: ①Compared with preoperation, $P<0.05$

表 4 两组之间术后吞咽困难及植骨融合率对比

Table 4 Comparison of postoperative dysphagia and bone graft fusion rate between the two groups

	Zero-P 组/Zero-P group		钛板组/Titanium plate group		P 值 P value
	术后 3 个月 3 months post-op	末次随访 Final follow-up	术后 3 个月 3 months post-op	末次随访 Final follow-up	
Bazaz 评分/Bazaz score					
无/None	27	27	25	28	
轻/Mild	0	0	1	0	
中/Moderate	0	0	2	0	
重/Severe	0	0	0	0	
植骨融合率/Graft fusion rate	88.89%(24/27)	100%(27/27)	92.86%(26/28)	100%(28/28)	0.012

表 5 两组之间患者手术前后临床疗效评价指标对比

($\bar{x} \pm s$)

Table 5 Comparison of clinical efficacy evaluation indexes between the two groups before and after operation

	Zero-P 组/Zero-P group			钛板组/Titanium plate group		
	术前 Preoperation	术后 3 个月 3 months post-op	末次随访 Final follow-up	术前 Preoperation	术后 3 个月 3 months post-op	末次随访 Final follow-up
VAS 评分(分) VAS score	3.42±0.73	2.03±0.33 ^①	1.34±0.42 ^①	3.35±0.36	2.17±0.45 ^①	1.19±0.51 ^①
颈部功能障碍指数(%) NDI(%)	38.14±2.78	17.62±1.53 ^①	9.53±0.66 ^{①②}	37.73±1.59	16.45±2.25 ^①	10.03±1.55 ^{①②}
JOA 评分(分) JOA score	9.07±0.56	12.25±1.81 ^①	15.21±0.43 ^①	8.95±0.37	14.03±0.64 ^①	15.02±1.08 ^①

注:①与术前比较 $P<0.05$;②与术后 3 个月比较 $P<0.05$

Note: ①Compared with preoperative, $P<0.05$; ②Compared with postoperative 3 months, $P<0.05$

间融合器(Zero-profile device, Zero-P)在临床的应用,该融合器的优势在于椎体前方无需放置钛板,对食道不会造成压迫,但具有钛板系统相似的生物力学稳定性。零切迹融合器的应用明显缩短了手术时间并有效降低了术后吞咽困难的发生率,已广泛应用于 ACDF 手术中^[13-15]。在本研究中同样发现,由于术中不需要过多的调整钛板位置及选择合适的钛板长度,Zero-P 组手术时间明显少于钛板组。术后 27 例 Zero-P 组患者中仅有 1 例(3.7%)出现椎前异物感,并于术后 1 个月时症状完全缓解,而 28 例使用钛板的患者中术后有 4 例(14.29%)发生椎前异物感,3 例(10.71%)发生吞咽困难,其中轻度 1 例(3.57%),中度 2 例(7.14%)。此前有报道传统钛板 ACDF 术后吞咽困难的发生率约为 10%~21%^[16,17],因此零切迹融合器显著降低了术后吞咽困难的发生率。我们认为,零切迹融合器消除了前方钛板对食道的反复刺激,也有可能与手术时间短,气管、食管的牵拉时间短,导致软组织肿胀明显减轻有一定的关系^[18]。同样有学者研究认为,Zero-P 治疗多节段脊髓型颈椎病的吞咽困难发生率低,长期随访结果满意^[15]。Tong 等^[19]比较 Zero-P 和前路钢板椎间融合器治疗多节段脊髓型颈椎病的临床疗效,结果显示前路手术中两者均安全有效,脊髓功能改善和影像学评价疗效相似,但是 Zero-P 可显著降低术后吞咽困难发生率。

然而,也有研究认为虽然应用零切迹融合器系统行 3~4 个节段 ACDF 手术能够获得令人满意的手术效果和颈椎曲度,但由于缺乏钛板的前方支撑,术后容易发生颈椎曲度丢失^[15]。颈椎曲度的变化导致临近节段的应力改变,可能加速临近节段退变。相邻节段退变一直是颈椎前路融合手术后长期潜在的并发症,长节段融合术后相邻节段退变发生率更高,已引起临床医生越来越多的关注。一期颈椎前路术后 10 年内相邻节段退变发生率为 25%,其中超过 15% 患者需行二次手术^[12,20]。相邻节段退变的机制仍不明确,被广泛接受的原因是颈椎局部的生物力学改变和相邻节段的自然退变,其他危险因素包括高龄、多节段融合、术后颈椎序列改变、钛板过长、术中损伤邻近椎间盘以及术前已存在邻近节段退变^[21]。在本研究中,对于颈椎后凸 Cobb 角≤20°的患者,3 或 4 节段 Zero-P VA 很好地恢复了颈椎间隙高度和

颈椎曲度,达到了前路钛板相似的临床效果,并且在末次随访中并未见颈椎曲度明显丢失。椎间隙高度恢复及重塑的颈椎曲度,可有效减缓甚至预防相邻节段退变。Basques 等^[22]研究发现,相比单节段 ACDF,多节段 ACDF 能够获得更大的颈椎前凸,但并不增加邻近节段退变的发生率。在我们的随访中,尽管钛板组有 2 例患者发生相邻节段退变,但所有患者在随访时间内均无需再次手术。这可能和术者的手术技术、术中钛板长度的选择及放置位置有一定关系。为了减少医源性相邻节段退变,术中我们在处理融合节段上端和下端椎间隙时,我们只显露至上端椎体的下终板和下端椎体的上终板,尽量保护上、下端椎体前软组织及相邻椎间盘,并将椎体钉尽量置于靠近终板位置。在选择使用零切迹融合器时,先充分处理椎间隙,将合适型号的零切迹融合器安装后,取出椎体钉,再拧入融合器固定螺钉,尽可能减少对相邻节段的影响。

据研究报道,3 或 4 节段颈椎前路融合手术假关节的发生率为 0~50% 之间,主要取决于植骨类别、BMP 和前路钛板的使用^[23,24],以及融合节段的数量和其他各种手术因素^[25]。颈椎假关节可能继发于疼痛、不稳定或内固定失败,其中一部分患者并无症状;但 67% 的假关节患者为有症状者,即使那些在一段时间内没有症状的患者,也有可能在创伤性事件后出现新的或复发的症状^[26]。尽管 3 节段和 4 节段的 ACDF 影像学上假关节发生率较高,多节段 ACDF 患者有持续的神经症状改善和较低翻修率^[27,28]。但同样有学者发现,尽管临床症状改善明显,但多节段 ACDF 患者比单节段 ACDF 患者有较高的再入院及并发症发生率,3 节段和 4 节段 ACDF 患者的翻修率高达 35%^[29,30]。因此,颈椎前路融合术后假关节形成可导致持续的颈部疼痛和不满意的治疗效果^[27]。为了尽可能降低假关节发生率,提高植骨融合率,我们术中充分刮除终板软骨,暴露骨性终板,融合器填充自体骨和人工骨混合细小颗粒,术后早期严格佩戴颈椎支具,避免早期颈椎过度活动,有利于促进椎间植骨融合,从而有效减少假关节的发生。椎间植骨的有效融合,可以避免融合器松动或沉降,从而有利于维持颈椎力线,减少术后颈椎曲度丢失^[31,32]。在本研究中,两组患者在末次随访时均达到有效的植骨融合。目前关于多节段 ACDF 的对比研究

仍然相对较少,长期随访结果有待进一步观察。多节段 ACDF 更加容易损伤喉返神经及喉上神经,术后患者出现声音嘶哑、呛咳等。本研究中钛板组有 1 例患者发生喉返神经损伤,我们认为主要与术者的手术操作相关,也有可能与放置钛板时喉返神经受牵拉时间较长,术中需要暴露的范围更大有一定的关系。

本研究通过回顾性对比分析前路零切迹融合器和钛板在治疗多节段脊髓型颈椎病患者中的临床效果及手术前后影像学改变,发现零切迹融合器不仅能够有效恢复颈椎间隙高度、重塑颈椎前凸,达到与钛板相似的临床效果,并且能够显著降低术后吞咽困难的发生率,减缓相邻节段退变。但本研究为非随机对照研究,随访时间相对较短,还需要更长时间随访、更高质量的随机对照研究评估零切迹融合器在治疗多节段脊髓型颈椎病中的临床价值。

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