シンポジウム ④

全身性炎症反応(SIRS)患者の腸管内治療 ~腸内細菌叢とシンバイオティクス療法

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重症感染,外傷,熱傷などの生体への過大な「侵襲」は、腸管に多大な影響を及ぼすことが知られている.腸内細菌や毒素のtranslocation、腸間膜リンパ中のchemical mediators、粘膜免疫バランスの崩壊などが、多臓器不全の進行や感染症の合併に関連すると考えられている(Gut origin sepsis). いわば腸管は、"the motor of critically illness"と捉えることができ、"腸管不全"が重症化の原因として世界的にも注目されている(Clark IAら、Shock 2007; 28: 384).

シンバイオティクス療法は、プロバイオティクスとプレバイオティクスの併用療法であり、肝移植や 胆管癌患者では術前投与により感染合併症を低下させることが注目されている。一方、重症な急性膵炎 症例では治療効果に否定的な発表もされている。

我々は、①SIRS患者の腸管内の変化、②シンバイオティクス療法の効果、③治療の限界、特に腸管蠕動不全との関連を報告してきた。

①侵襲時は、生体に有用な効果をもたらす菌である Bifidobacterium と Lactobacillus は、健常人と比べると 100分の 1 から 1 万分の 1 に有意に減少するが、ブドウ球菌数は、健常人の 100 倍程度に増加した、大腸の上皮細胞の主要なエネルギー源である便中の有機酸、特に抗炎症効果のある短鎖脂肪酸(酢酸、プロピオン酸、酪酸)は、有意に減少し、pH も有意に増加した(Shimizuら、J Trauma 2006; 60: 126).

また, 腸内総偏性嫌気性菌数の減少が持続する症例では, 腸炎, 菌血症などの感染合併症が増加し死亡率が有意に高値であった(清水ら, 日救急医会誌 2006; 17: 833).

- ②シンバイオティクスにより、腸内細菌叢と腸内環境を保つことができた。また、感染の合併率は、投与群は非投与群と比べて、腸炎 (7% vs. 46%)、肺炎 (20% vs. 52%)、菌血症 (10% vs. 33%) ともに有意に低かった (Shimizuら、Dig Dis Sci 2009; 54: 1071)
- ③シンバイオティクス投与患者(50例)においても腸管蠕動不全を呈する患者(5例)では、腸内細菌叢が著しく崩壊し、全例菌血症から死の転帰をとった。

以上より,正常細菌叢の崩壊,特に総偏性嫌気性菌の持続する低下が感染合併症の増加や予後の悪化と関連していると考えられる。対策としては、シンバイオティクスによる正常細菌叢の安定化が、感染合併症を防御する可能性が考えられる。また、腸管蠕動を維持することがシンバイオティクスの効果を維持するためには必要であると考えられる。今後、感染防御の作用機序などシンバイオティクスに関する研究、発展が望まれる。

Intestinal Therapy in Severe SIRS (Systemic Inflammatory Response Syndrome) Patients —Gut Flora and Synbiotic Therapy

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The gut is an important target organ for all kind of stress caused by severe insult like sepsis, trauma, burn, shock, bleeding and infection. Gut under severe insult is considered to have an important role in promoting infectious complications and multiple organ dysfunction syndrome from the viewpoint of deteriorated intestinal epithelium, immune system and commensal bacteria (1). The gut is the "motor" of multiple organ failure, and now it is noted that gut dysfunction is recognized as a cause for promotion of diseases.

Synbiotic therapy is a combination with probiotics and prebiotics. Recently it is noted that preoperative synbiotics reduce the complications in liver transplantation and biliary carcinoma patients. On the contrary, there is another negative report in patients with severe acute pancreatitis.

We quantitatively evaluated changes in the gut microflora and environment in patients with severe SIRS (2), examined the effects of synbiotic treatment on clinical course, and evaluated the limitation of synbiotic treatment on gut dysmotility. We show the following results on gut function in critically ill patients.

- 1) The gut flora and environment are significantly altered in patients with severe SIRS. Analysis of fecal flora confirmed that patients with severe SIRS showed significantly lower total anaerobic bacterial counts, in particular, 2–4 log units fewer beneficial *Bifidobacterium* and *Lactobacillus* and 2 log units more pathogenic *Staphylococcus* and *Pseudomonas* group counts than did healthy volunteers. Concentrations of total fecal organic acids, in particular, beneficial short-chain fatty acids such as acetic acid, propionic acid, and butyric acid, were significantly decreased in the patients, whereas pH was markedly increased. While the persistent decrease of the obligate anaerobes increased the septic complications and mortality significantly.
- 2) Synbiotics maintain the gut flora and environment in patients with severe SIRS and significantly reduce the incidence of septic complications. The incidences of infectious complications in patients with severe SIRS were significantly lower in the synbiotics group than in the control group (enteritis, 7% vs. 46%, pneumonia, 20% vs. 52%, and bacteremia, 10% vs. 33%, respectively). These beneficial effects of synbiotics in the present study may be due to improved gut flora, increased short-chain fatty acids, and decreased pH (3).
- 3) In SIRS patients with symbiotic therapy (50 cases), intestinal dymotility patients (5 cases) all had deterioration in their gut flora, caused bacteremia, and were mortal.

As a result, the deterioration of gut flora, especially the persistent decrease of the obligate anaerobes were related with septic complications and mortality. Symbiotics could maintain the gut flora and protect the critically ill patients from infectious complications. Further study is needed to clarify the mechanisms by which symbiotics decrease septic complications in patients with SIRS.

References

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