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·文献综述·

乳腺癌新辅助化疗后前哨淋巴结分析的研究进展

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摘要

腋窝淋巴结清扫术（ALND）作为评估腋窝淋巴结状态的金标准常应用于乳腺癌手术中。但随着医疗技术的发展，在保证生存率及尽量减少复发的前提下，临幊上越来越重视患者的生存质量。ALND也因其会造成手臂淋巴水肿、肩部功能障碍等副作用，使用率逐渐下降，取而代之的是创伤更小、使患者的生活质量更好的前哨淋巴结活检术（SLNB），SLNB也是早期浸润性乳腺癌患者腋窝淋巴结处理的标准方式。新辅助化疗（NAC）作为全身系统治疗重要组成部分，不仅可以缩小肿瘤，增加手术机会，还可以增加保乳率，为更多患者带来临床获益。但NAC后的SLNB因受NAC对淋巴管等作用的影响，存在检出率低及假阴性率（FNR）高的问题，这也使NAC后行SLNB备受争议，如何使更多符合标准的乳腺癌人群豁免ALND获得临床获益是亟待解决的临幊问题。目前已有多项技术方法尝试用于提高乳腺癌NAC后SLNB检出率及降低FNR。相比单一示踪剂，联合蓝染料及核素两种传统示踪剂或结合纳米碳混悬液、吲哚菁绿、微泡超声造影、超顺磁氧化铁等新型示踪剂，或是采用纳米颗粒辅助腋窝分期对前哨淋巴结进行示踪，可显著提高SLNB的检出率。多项大型前瞻性试验证明，保证≥3枚前哨淋巴结被切除可显著降低SLNB的FNR；靶向ALND作为SLNB的补充，通过在术前对阳性淋巴结进行标记定位可实现精准切除淋巴结，利用雷达反射器、碳文身、放射性粒子、磁性粒子、术中超声等进行定位可进一步提高其准确性。另外，有研究提出结合影像检查如腋窝超声图像、CT淋巴成像等，能清楚显示淋巴结及其周围淋巴管解剖结构，增加临幊医师的把握度，进一步提高检出率，降低FNR，但暂未得到大型试验数据证实。笔者对目前NAC后的前哨淋巴结分析的相关研究进行系统总结，旨在为临幊提供思路和方向，关于在临幊上具体如何抉择能使更多患者获益未来仍需大量研究来验证。

关键词

乳腺肿瘤；放化疗，辅助；前哨淋巴结活组织检查；综述

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Research progress in analysis of sentinel lymph nodes after neoadjuvant chemotherapy for breast cancer

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Abstract

Axillary lymph node dissection (ALND) is frequently used in breast cancer surgery as the gold standard for assessing the status of axillary lymph nodes. However, with the development of medical techniques, more attention is paid to the patient's quality of life on the premise of ensuring survival and minimizing

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recurrence. The use of ALND in breast cancer patients is gradually declining due to its side effects such as arm lymphedema and shoulder dysfunction. Moreover, it is increasingly being replaced by sentinel lymph node biopsy (SLNB), which has the advantages of the less invasiveness and maintaining better patients' quality of life and is also a standard procedure to manage the axillary lymph nodes in early invasive breast cancer. Neoadjuvant chemotherapy (NAC), as an important part of systemic treatment of breast cancer, can not only shrink the tumor and increase the chance of radical surgery, but also increase the rate of breast conservation, and thereby bring benefits to more patients. However, the feasibility of performing SLNB after NAC is controversial, because the low detection rate and high false negative rate (FNR) of SLNB after NAC resulting from the influence of NAC exerted on the lymphatic vessels. It is an urgent clinical problem that how to help more breast cancer patients who meet eligibility criteria to avoid ALND to obtain more treatment benefits. Currently, many new technical approaches have been attempted to improve the detection rate and reduce the FNR of SLNB after NAC for breast cancer. Compared with using a single tracer, lymph node tracing in breast cancer using conventional dual tracer composed of radioisotope and blue dye, or combined with other new tracers such as carbon nanoparticle suspension, indocyanine green fluorescence, microbubble ultrasonography, superparamagnetic iron oxide, or using nanoparticle-assisted axillary staging, can significantly improve the detection rate of SLNB. Several large prospective trials have demonstrated that guarantee of removing ≥ 3 sentinel lymph nodes can dramatically reduce the FNR of SLNB; targeted ALND, a complement to SLNB, can facilitate a precise lymph node dissection by marking and locating the positive lymph nodes before operation, and its accuracy can be further enhanced by localization of radar reflectors, carbon tattoos, radioactive particles, magnetic particles, and intraoperative ultrasound. In addition, some recent studies have proposed to combine with imaging examinations such as axillary ultrasound and CT lymphography, which can display the anatomical structure of lymph nodes and the surrounding lymphatic vessels clearly, to increase the certainty of clinicians, further improve the detection rate and reduce the FNR, but it has not been confirmed by data from large clinical trials yet. Herein, the authors systematically summarize the current research progress related to analysis of sentinel lymph nodes after NAC, aiming to provide some ideas and directions. The issue of how to make a choice in clinical practice to benefit more patients still needs a large number of studies to identify in the future.

Key words

Breast Neoplasms; Chemoradiotherapy, Adjuvant; Sentinel Lymph Node Biopsy; Review

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目前女性乳腺癌已超过肺癌成为全球最常见的癌症，且在绝大多数国家乳腺癌已成为女性发病率及病死率最高的疾病^[1]。腋窝淋巴结状态作为评估乳腺癌预后的重要指标，不仅可以通过分期判断局部转移的程度，还可用于指导后续治疗方案^[2]。一直以来腋窝淋巴结清扫术（axillary lymph node dissection, ALND）被视为评价腋窝淋巴结状态的金标准，常应用于乳腺癌的手术治疗中，但ALND可引起上肢疼痛、水肿、功能障碍等诸多并发症，并且近些年陆续有大型研究^[3-6]结果显示，无淋巴结转移患者行ALND并无明显临床获益，甚

至还会大幅降低患者的生活质量。随着医疗技术的发展，在保证总体生存率的前提下，整体治疗方案更倾向于选择创伤更小、能获取更高生活质量的腋窝淋巴结分期方式，即前哨淋巴结活检术（sentinel lymph node biopsy, SLNB）^[7-10]。《中国抗癌协会乳腺癌诊治指南与规范》^[11]中推荐将SLNB作为早期浸润性乳腺癌的标准腋窝处理方式来预测判断腋窝淋巴结转移状况。新辅助化疗（neoadjuvant chemotherapy, NAC）是针对初治未发现远处转移的乳腺癌患者，在手术治疗或者放疗等局部治疗前进行的全身系统性化疗。对于中晚

期乳腺癌患者而言，除了直接手术，NAC已成为更常见的选择^[12]。NAC除了可缩小肿瘤范围，使不可手术的乳腺癌患者获得手术机会，还可提高患者保乳率，以及可通过药敏实验进一步决定术后是否有进行全身强化治疗的需求及方案^[13-16]。现已有ACOSOG Z0011、IBCSG23-01等众多大型试验证实^[4-5,17-18]，对于早期淋巴结阴性及未转移的乳腺癌患者，不行ALND而只行SLNB是安全可行的，甚至美国ASCO指南^[19]及NCCN指南^[20]都建议对于符合标准的乳腺癌患者在SLNB后可不行ALND。但在NAC后乳腺癌患者中SLNB的应用效果如何尚不清楚，国内对于NAC后腋窝淋巴结的处理，特别是对于临床淋巴结阳性的乳腺癌患者，仍相对保守谨慎^[21]。NAC是否会影响SLNB的分期判断以及NAC后SLNB是否同样适用仍存在争议。鉴于此，本文将从目前NAC后前哨淋巴结相关研究现状及提高SLNB准确性技术方法进展方面进行系统综述，为临床实践提供参考，使更多符合标准的乳腺癌患者豁免ALND获得临床获益。

1 NAC后SLNB的研究进展

一项Meta分析^[18]结果显示，NAC后SLNB的正确检出率介于89%~96%之间，假阴性率（false negative rate, FNR）介于13%~17%之间，由此可见NAC对前哨淋巴结的识别影响不大，但却会造成不可接受的FNR（FNR>10%）。三大前瞻性临床试验^[22-24]同样得出了NAC后SLNB的FNR高这一结论。其中大型多中心前瞻性研究SENTINA^[22]试验对在NAC后淋巴结病理完全缓解的592例患者（C组）先行SLNB再进行ALND验证，结果显示，单使用核素法SLNB的FNR为16.0%，联合核素法和蓝染料（未提及具体蓝染料）FNR为8.6%，总FNR为14.2% (95% CI=9.9~19.4)。美国外科肿瘤学会前瞻性试验ACOSOG Z1071^[23]纳入687例初诊淋巴结阳性（cN+）不伴远处转移乳腺癌患者，在接受NAC后进行SLNB和ALND，其中545例患者在NAC后行联合核素和蓝染料法SLNB的FNR为10.8%。加拿大前瞻性多中心研究SN FNAC试验^[24]中83例活检证实淋巴结阳性的患者在接受NAC后均行SLNB，结果显示单用核素法SLNB的FNR为16.0%。另外，法国1项前瞻性队列研究GANE 2试验^[25]共纳

入957例早期乳腺癌患者，其中244例术前确诊淋巴结阳性的患者，在NAC后成功序贯行联合核素和蓝染料SLNB和ALND，结果显示其FNR为11.9% (95% CI=7.3~17.9)。综上，NAC后SLNB高FNR是无法回避的一大重要难题，如何进一步降低FNR也成为NAC后乳腺癌患者腋窝淋巴结管理的热点研究方向。

2 NAC后SLNB技术方法进展

Kim等^[26]认为术前MRI检查中有较多可疑淋巴结、周围淋巴结浸润、较高的临床T分期和单一示踪剂等都与乳腺癌患者NAC后腋窝手术前哨淋巴结识别失败独立相关，这也为临床进一步提高SLNB检出率提供了方向。接下来将从NAC后SLNB相关技术方法进展进行系统介绍及总结。

2.1 SLNB中示踪剂选择

目前临幊上用于SLNB的示踪剂主要为蓝染料和放射性核素。国内最常用的蓝染料为亚甲蓝，有价格低廉、易获得等优势，但其检出率可变，且存在染料过敏的情况^[27]。另外NAC会造成淋巴引流受损，使SLNB过程中亚甲蓝吸收减少，从而使得染料法的准确性降低^[28]。核素法也因其放射性及技术设备等问题，导致有资质开展的医院数量屈指可数，核素法示踪使用率不到1%^[21]。目前不断有研究提出新型示踪剂及联合示踪剂方法来提高SLNB的准确性。

2.1.1 纳米碳混悬液 纳米碳混悬液能快速经过淋巴管进入淋巴结，操作性强且毒副作用小。Wei等^[29]的研究纳入152例女性原发性乳腺癌患者，于NAC后单用碳混悬液示踪SLNB，随后行ALND验证淋巴结的转移情况，结果显示前哨淋巴结成功检出率为94.08%，准确率为94.41%，FNR为9.87%。由此可见，将纳米碳混悬液用于SLNB准确性高，也能在一定程度上降低FNR，但该研究样本量较少，研究中的差异均无统计学意义，且未纳入初始临床淋巴结阳性的患者，其应用效果有待进一步验证。

2.1.2 吲哚菁绿(indocyanine green, ICG) 这是一种利用荧光成像原理进行淋巴结定位的技术，ICG可被激发产生荧光，价格低廉，几乎无副作用，注射后快速经皮可视，可为手术节约时间。Kedrzycki

等^[30]关于ICG的Meta分析显示,单用ICG的检出率优于单用蓝染料(亚甲蓝、专利蓝、异硫蓝)($OR=9.45$, 95% CI=2.23~40.8, $P=0.001$)及蓝染料联合核素法($OR=4.22$, 95% CI=2.17~8.20, $P<0.001$),但与单用核素法相当($OR=2.58$, 95% CI=0.35~19.08, $P=0.18$)。Jung等^[31]的前瞻性随机试验也显示,单用ICG的检出率略高于单用核素法(94.7% vs. 93.0%, $P=0.79$),但是以上结果均存在一定局限性,Meta分析中纳入的研究异质性较大,也未报告NAC后的使用情况。前瞻性随机试验样本量只有122例,缺失FNR的对比,虽在一定程度上证明可将ICG用于SLNB示踪,但对于降低FNR方面还需要更多试验研究数据证明其可行性。另外,在临床实践中还需考虑,利用ICG示踪需要额外仪器及摄像头进行荧光显像,可能导致临床成本增加的问题,但对于不能开展放射性核素的医院而言,使用ICG不失为一种有效替代方法。

2.1.3 微泡超声造影剂 通过注射微泡造影剂行超声造影来识别前哨淋巴结,不仅实时可视,无创便携,且微泡造影剂中没有碘和蛋白,可避免患者过敏^[32]。Wu等^[33]临床试验纳入134例行NAC后由cN1转为cN0的患者,随机分组对比发现联合使用微泡超声造影剂和蓝染料对转移前哨淋巴结的检出率明显高于单用蓝染料(98.5% vs. 84.6%),联合法检测出的前哨淋巴结平均数量也明显高于单用蓝染料[3.13 (1~6) 枚 vs. 1.12 (1~4) 枚, $P<0.001$],同时联合法的FNR也明显低于单一使用蓝染料(15.6% vs. 26.1%)。利用微泡超声造影能够帮助外科医师在术中准确定位前哨淋巴结,且微泡造影剂稳定性强,可在手术过程中随时成像,但该研究样本量较少,且并未提及相关数据在统计学上的意义,仍需要进一步研究证实其可行性和提高其判断准确性。

2.1.4 超顺磁性氧化铁(superparamagnetic iron oxide, SPIO) SPIO具有安全简易,易识别等优势,另外SPIO还可以充当造影剂直接在MRI上无创识别前哨淋巴结转移^[34]。SentiMAG多中心试验^[34]纳入160例临床淋巴结阴性的乳腺癌患者,所有患者均行SLNB,结果对比发现单用SPIO示踪法的检出率与常用示踪剂(单独核素或核素联合蓝染料)相当(94.4% vs. 95.0%, 差值95% CI上限为4.4%)。因此可见,将SPIO应用于SLNB是可行的,但该实

验并未涉及NAC后的相关数据。Yilmaz等^[35]纳入54例接受NAC的乳腺癌患者,对比单用SPIO与单用蓝染料(异硫蓝)示踪发现,SPIO的检出率明显高于单用蓝染料(96.3% vs. 70.0%)。但上述试验样本量均较小,磁性示踪剂因其持久性可能会使术后MRI产生空象干扰判断,也会产生色素沉着副作用,因此也需要更多研究及更长时间随访来确定其有效性及其副作用的影响。

2.1.5 联合示踪剂 《中国抗癌协会乳腺癌诊治指南与规范》^[11]推荐联合使用蓝染料和核素示踪剂用于SLNB。多项研究同样证实联合使用不同示踪剂可以综合各种示踪剂的优点,进一步提高检出率,其中包括传统双示踪剂即联合蓝染料和核素法。王敏等^[36]对于国内核素联合亚甲蓝示踪的Meta分析结果显示,与单用亚甲蓝示踪相比,传统双示踪法不仅可以提高早期乳腺癌患者SLNB的成功率($OR=5.81$, 95% CI=4.04~8.37, $P<0.000\ 01$),还能显著降低FNR($OR=0.26$, 95% CI=0.17~0.39, $P<0.000\ 01$)。大型SENTINA试验^[22]中对NAC后腋窝淋巴结病理完全缓解患者使用传统双示踪剂和单用核素法行SLNB的FNR分别为8.6%和16.0%($P=0.145$)。多中心前瞻性研究ACOSOG Z1071试验^[23]结果显示对于NAC后行SLNB采用传统双示踪剂的FNR明显低于单一示踪剂(10.8% vs. 20.3%, $P=0.05$)。除了传统双示踪剂,联合传统及新型示踪剂也得到了同样的结论,其中包括ICG联合核素法^[31]应用于初期淋巴结阳性乳腺癌患者在NAC后行SLNB的显像示踪,结果提示联合法的检出率高于单用核素法(98.3% vs. 94.7%, $P=0.14$);王骥等^[37]对国内机构开展的ICG联合亚甲蓝示踪情况进行的Meta分析显示,与单用亚甲蓝示踪法相比,联合法检出率明显增加($OR=5.39$, 95% CI=3.46~8.39, $P<0.000\ 01$),而FNR明显降低($OR=0.15$, 95% CI=0.08~0.29, $P<0.000\ 01$);联合使用超声造影和蓝染料^[33]对接受NAC后由cN1转为cN0乳腺癌患者前哨淋巴结的检出率同样明显高于单用蓝染料(98.5% vs. 84.6%, $P<0.001$),同时联合法的FNR也更低(15.6% vs. 26.1%)。另外,Yang等^[38]进行的一项单中心前瞻性研究纳入80例NAC后临床腋窝阳性淋巴结转阴(ypN0)的浸润性乳腺癌患者,所有患者均行同侧纳米颗粒辅助腋窝分期(nanoparticle-assisted axillary staging, NAAS)即联合

碳纳米颗粒、蓝染料（亚甲蓝）及放射性同位素3种示踪剂行SLNB，之后均行ALND，结果显示NAAS的FNR低于单用碳纳米颗粒及传统双示踪法（4.2% vs. 10.9% vs. 9.5%），可见NAAS在NAC后ypNo患者中是一种更加准确的腋窝分期方式。综上，联合示踪剂均展现出单一示踪不可比拟的优势，为提高SLNB准确率可尝试尽量选用联合示踪剂进行SLNB示踪。另外很多最新研究也提出多种新型示踪剂，为SLNB的示踪提供了新的想法，但都存在一定局限性，仍需更多大型试验来证实，临幊上也应该根据实际情况适当联合不同示踪剂取长补短获得最优解。

2.2 前哨淋巴结(sentinel lymph node, SLN)的切除数量影响

NSABP B-32随机III期试验^[39]纳入5 611例原发性浸润性淋巴结阴性乳腺癌患者，研究结果显示，随着SLN切除数量增加，FNR逐渐减少。当只有1枚SLN被切除时，FNR为17.7%；当2枚SLN被切除时，FNR为10.0%；当3枚及3枚以上SLN被切除时，FNR小于10%（1.0%~6.9%），差异具有统计学意义（ $P<0.001$ ）。由此可见增加切除SLN的数量（≥3枚）可显著降低SLNB的FNR。Tee等^[40]在一项Meta分析中纳入13项研究共1 921例早期活检证实淋巴结阳性乳腺癌患者，均在NAC后行SLNB，其中包括美国ACOSOG Z1071试验^[23]、德国SENTINA试验^[22]、加拿大SN FNAC试验^[24]三大前瞻性试验，结果显示对于经NAC后行SLNB患者而言，切除1枚SLN患者的总体FNR为20%（13%~27%），切除2枚SLN患者的总体FNR为12%（5%~19%），切除3枚及3枚以上SLN的总体FNR为4%（0~9%）。上述实验结果均证实NAC后SLNB的FNR与淋巴结移除数量成反比，保证切除≥3枚SLN能将FNR控制在可接受范围。但切除的SLN数量并非越多越好，临幊上如何控制SLN切除数量，既能降低FNR又可减少患者损害仍需结合患者情况权衡利弊。

2.3 靶向腋窝淋巴结清扫术(targeted axillary lymph node dissection, TAD)

TAD作为一种新型腋窝分期技术包括SLNB和标记淋巴结活检术（marked lymph node biopsy, MLNB），MLNB指在活检证实为阳性的腋窝淋巴结中放置标记物，在完成NAC后通过标记定位去除

标记的淋巴结^[41~43]。NCCN指南^[44]建议在接受全身治疗之前采用标记物标记可疑和/或临床阳性的淋巴结。ACOSOG Z1071试验^[43,45]中，在203例患者初始淋巴结活检时证实为阳性的淋巴结中放置标记物，其中107例成功定位并切除了淋巴结，这些患者的FNR为6.8%（95% CI=1.9~16.5），明显低于355例未接受TAD的患者的FNR（13.4%，95% CI=9.1~18.8）。Caudle等^[42]进行的前瞻性研究中，在208例乳腺癌患者的阳性淋巴结中放置标记物，在NAC后对患者进行SLNB或TAD，最后行ALND来判定淋巴结状态，结果显示NAC后单纯行SLNB组的FNR为10.1%（95% CI=4.2~19.8），而添加了TAD组的FNR低至2.0%（95% CI=0.05~10.7）。虽然由于样本量的限制缺乏两者统计学方面的对比，但不难看出利用TAD是一个降低FNR行之有效并十分有发展空间的方法。如今临幊上较常见方法是使用金属导丝或放射性粒子进行定位^[46]，但都存在着价格昂贵，有放射性、反复淋巴结穿刺等缺陷，因此还需提高淋巴结定位技术，进一步降低FNR。以下为一些最新改良定位技术的发展情况。

2.3.1 雷达反射器定位(radar reflector localization, RRL) Sun等^[47]的回顾性研究纳入45例临床淋巴结阳性女性乳腺癌患者并在阳性淋巴结中放置标记物，在完成NAC后采用RRL来指导定位TAD，其中所有患者RRL都准确地定位最初的腋窝活检中被标记的淋巴结，25例淋巴结阳性患者中24例经RRL淋巴结切除确诊，由此可见对于临床淋巴结阳性乳腺癌患者在NAC后使用RRL引导TAD有望成为一种安全可行识别靶向淋巴结的方式，但受样本量的限制有待进一步证实。

2.3.2 碳文身 是指使用碳悬浮液进行术前文身标记阳性淋巴结，具有可行、准确、低成本、肉眼可视的优势^[48]。斯坦福大学^[49]首次在NAC前将无菌黑碳悬浮液（sterile carbon suspension, SpotTM）注射到淋巴结的皮质和周围软组织中对活检证实为阳性的淋巴结进行文身标记，先行SLNB的I组16例患者中15例肉眼发现并成功切除了黑染淋巴结，剩下1例也通过组织检查在淋巴结皮质下看见了黑色色素，先行NAC后行SLNB的II组12例患者均成功发现并切除了黑染的淋巴结，碳文身不需要额外的定位程序，且不会干扰标准的SLNB，可安全简便地运用于淋巴结定位。Spautz等^[50]进行的

前瞻性研究利用4%碳微粒悬液(carbon microparticle suspension, CMS)在NAC前对123例临床腋窝淋巴结阳性的患者的可疑或经细针穿刺活检证实阳性的淋巴结进行标记,结果显示用4%的CMS标记的淋巴结有着高检出率98.3%(121/123),FNR为6.9%,但由于该实验未对所有患者行ALND,因此其FNR可能被低估。碳微粒相比金属夹及放射性粒子而言无需额外定位程序,且价格低廉,提升了患者的舒适度,可考虑CMS应用于NAC前标记淋巴结补充SLNB,从而提高检出率,降低FNR。

2.3.3 放射性碘粒子标记腋窝淋巴结(marking the axillary lymph node with radioactive iodine seeds, MARI) MARI是评估NAC后乳腺癌患者淋巴结转移情况的一种新型微创方法。具体步骤包括在NAC前用¹²⁵I粒子对活检证实为阳性的淋巴结(MARI淋巴结)进行标记,完成NAC后用γ探针检测并选择性切除MARI淋巴结^[51]。¹²⁵I粒子的半衰期长达60 d,可充分进行NAC治疗,还可降低周围血管结构的损伤风险^[51]。Donker等^[51]首次研究了MARI对于NAC后腋窝淋巴结转移的评估作用,在纳入的103例腋窝淋巴结阳性患者中,100例成功接受了MARI,随后接受了ALND来评估MARI的病理反应,结果显示MARI的检出率达97%(95% CI=91~99),准确性高达95%(95% CI=88~95),FNR仅为7%(95% CI=2~16)^[30,36]。荷兰的大型多中心前瞻性试验^[52]验证了联合MARI和标准双示踪SLNB(radioactive iodine seed localization in the axilla combined with the SLNB, RISAS)方法的准确性,2020年美国圣安东尼奥乳腺癌研讨会(San Antonio Breast Cancer Symposium, SABCS)报道该实验纳入了227例初始淋巴结阳性的患者,在NAC前对穿刺证实为阳性的淋巴结中植入¹²⁵I粒子,NAC后行SLNB时同时切除所有含¹²⁵I的淋巴结及其他SLN,随后所有患者行ALND来判断RISAS的准确性,结果显示RISAS方法的准确率为98%,FNR为3.47%(95% CI=1.38~7.16)。对于NAC后乳腺癌患者,RISAS在腋窝分期方面不管是成功率或准确率方面都得到了很大的提升,甚至可与ALND比拟。但¹²⁵I为具有放射性粒子,且存在粒子脱落的问题,其是否能完全取代ALND仍需更大样本量研究来证实。

2.3.4 磁性粒子 磁性粒子在拥有放射性粒子优点同时避免了放射性,可安全使用。Mariscal Martínez等^[53]的前瞻性研究纳入29例浸润性乳腺癌患者,在NAC前采用超声引导下针对最可疑的淋巴结进行活检并标记,完成NAC后在标记的淋巴结中放入磁性粒子,之后在SLNB过程中使用磁探测探针通过被标记的淋巴结中磁粒子发出的信号定位并切除,结果显示单纯SLNB的FNR为21.4%,而SLNB联合磁性TAD的FNR为5.9%。但磁性粒子存在成本高、需要额外设备进行磁共振成像等问题,且该研究样本量过小还不足以证明其有效性,但术前使用磁性粒子进行定位仍是一种降低FNR的有效新思路。

2.3.5 术中超声(intraoperative ultrasound, IOUS)引导 在NAC前向活检证实为阳性的淋巴结植入超声可见的水凝胶金属标记物,利用IOUS引导切除标记淋巴结,不仅可以简化手术流程,还可避免TAD带来的重复淋巴结穿刺以及MARI放射性粒子的影响^[54]。ILINA试验^[54]纳入46例乳腺癌患者,NAC后在IOUS引导下切除事先标记的阳性淋巴结并行传统示踪法(联合核素和蓝染料)SLNB及ALND,其中IOUS成功预测了35例患者中34例患者的腋窝淋巴结状态,总体准确性97.1%(95% CI=85.1~100),FNR为4.1%(95% CI=0.1~21.1)。术中超声无需担心放射性,没有额外成本,将IOUS应用于引导切除标记淋巴结确实是一种方便安全、甚至可以替代放射性粒子标记的方法,但其准确性还需更多临床数据验证。

综上,相比单纯SLNB,TAD不但能准确识别阳性淋巴结,还能提升对腋窝淋巴结分期判断的准确性,在SLNB的基础上补充TAD是一种更加精准有效的腋窝淋巴结处理方式。但选择何种方式进行术前定位能既不受NAC的影响,又能减少有创操作次数仍需结合临床及更多大型前瞻性试验来研究证明。

2.4 腋窝超声(axillary ultrasound, AxUS)联合SLNB

ACOSOG Z1071试验^[55]纳入了611例原发性浸润性乳腺癌患者,所有患者均在NAC后进行了AxUS并根据图像分类为正常或可疑淋巴结,将AxUS检查结果与病理淋巴结状态相比,结果显示

行SLNB不考虑AxUS成像结果时FNR为12.6%，而利用AxUS指导SLNB时FNR下降至9.8%，这提示NAC后AxUS图像上显示异常的淋巴结为阳性淋巴结的可能性更大，用AxUS指导SLNB可降低FNR。但AxUS仍存在着一定的局限性，Morency等^[56]的研究显示，相比未行AxUS的患者，接受AxUS的患者阳性淋巴结检出数量并未明显增加（3.74 vs. 1.95；P=0.111）。只进行SLNB的FNR为8.4%，但只进行AxUS的FNR高达47.2%，而联合AxUS和SLNB的FNR可降到2.7%，因此AUS不适合作为一个单独评价淋巴结状态的方法，但其可以提高SLNB的准确性，也能在一定程度上降低FNR。

2.5 CT淋巴造影(computed tomography lymphography, CTLG)

CTLG是由Suga等^[57-58]于2003年首次提出的一种腋窝淋巴结定位技术，是指利用CT三维重建系统构建淋巴结虚拟三维图显示定位SLN的位置，且其准确性不受NAC影响。Ue等^[59]的研究对比了53例接受NAC患者NAC前后CTLG对SLN检出率的影响，结果发现NAC后行CTLG，SLN的检出率高于NAC前（90.5% vs. 79.5%），然而差异不明显。CTLG可结合影像学显影帮助临床医师了解淋巴结及其周围淋巴管的通路解剖结构，但同时也存在可能由于造影剂溢出导致SLN后的一些淋巴结显影的问题，且关于NAC后如何正确区分SLN及非SLN，避免切除多余的淋巴结，是否可以降低FNR，仍需更多大型研究来评估CTLG的价值。

3 小结

随着诊疗技术的发展，除了提高生存率，目前更多的研究方向着重于如何进一步减少并发症，提高生活质量，因此NAC后SLNB在乳腺癌患者中逐渐得到更加广泛的应用，诸多研究也为处理腋窝淋巴结及判断预后提供了新的思路，但目前NAC后SLNB的研究结果均因分期、病理状态等的不同存在着较大差异，且SLNB的低检出率及高FNR使其应用受到限制。使用联合蓝染料及核素法、切除≥3枚SLN、TAD均被证明可安全有效地提高SLNB的检出率及减少FNR。此外，应用新型示踪剂、术前采用不同方式定位阳性淋巴结、利用影像学检测如腋窝超声、CTLG等也有望作为补

充用于临床指导SLNB，但仍需更多进一步的临床研究来评估及证实。

利益冲突：所有作者均声明不存在利益冲突。

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