

声触诊弹性成像与二维剪切波弹性成像检测肝脏硬度的比较

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摘要:【目的】将声触诊弹性成像(STE)和二维剪切波弹性成像(2D-SWE)检测肝脏硬度进行比较,为STE新技术的临床应用提供循证依据。【方法】采用STE和2D-SWE技术,对43例健康志愿者和63例肝硬化患者行肝硬度检测,对比分析两种技术的检测成功率、操作者内重复性、测值相关性和测值差异。【结果】肝脏STE、2D-SWE检测成功率分别为100%(106/106)、96.2%(102/106)($\chi^2=2.320, P=0.128$),4例2D-SWE检测失败的均为肝硬化患者。在健康组STE测值高于2D-SWE[5.83(5.30~6.37)kPa vs 5.00(4.80~5.20)kPa, $Z=4.419, P<0.001$]、肝硬化组低于2D-SWE[15.82(11.71~25.02)kPa vs 18.50(11.95~29.93)kPa, $Z=-2.981, P=0.003$]。STE和2D-SWE两种技术的测值相关系数为0.896(95%CI:0.849~0.928, $P<0.001$)。【结论】STE检测成功率高、重复性好,尤其在肝硬化患者穿透性好、与2D-SWE比较更具优势;STE测值与2D-SWE不直接等同,临床应用中需要注意。

关键词:声触诊弹性成像;二维剪切波弹性成像;肝脏硬度;肝硬化

中图分类号:R445.1 文献标志码:A 文章编号:1672-3554(2020)04-0644-05

Liver Stiffness Assessment by Sound Touch Elastography versus Two-dimensional Shear Wave Elastography: a Comparative Study

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Abstract:【Objective】To compare sound touch elastography (STE), a new technique for the measurement of liver stiffness, and two-dimensional shear wave elastography (2D-SWE), and to provide an evidence base for STE's clinical practice.【Methods】The study included forty-three healthy volunteers and sixty-three patients with liver cirrhosis, in which liver stiffness was measured by means of STE and 2D-SWE. We compared the technical success rate, intra-operator reproducibility and liver stiffness values.【Results】The success rates of STE and 2D-SWE were 100% (106/106) and 96.2% (102/106), respectively ($\chi^2=2.320, P=0.128$), with four 2D-SWE examination failures in four patients with liver cirrhosis. Compared with those assessed by 2D-SWE, liver stiffness values assessed by STE were higher [5.83 (5.30~6.37) kPa vs. 5.00 (4.80~5.20) kPa, $Z=4.419, P<0.001$] in the healthy group, but lower [15.82 (11.71~25.02) kPa vs. 18.50 (11.95~29.93) kPa, $Z=-2.981, P=0.003$] in the liver cirrhosis group. The Spearman's rank correlation coefficient of STE and 2D-SWE was 0.896 (95%CI:0.849~0.928, $P<0.001$).【Conclusion】With equally good reproducibility, STE

收稿日期:2020-02-17

基金项目:广东省基础与应用基础研究基金(2019A1515011403)

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is superior to 2D-SWE due to its higher success rate and better penetration especially in patients with cirrhosis. The liver stiffness values assessed by STE and 2D-SWE are not equivalent, which deserves our special attention in clinical application.

Key words: sound touch elastography (STE); two-dimensional shear wave elastography (2D-SWE); liver stiffness; liver cirrhosis

[J SUN Yat-sen Univ (Med Sci), 2020, 41(4): 644-648]

弹性成像检测肝脏硬度已成为慢性肝病患者病情评估及随访监测的重要手段^[1-2]。声触诊弹性成像(sound touch elastography, STE)是最新的剪切波弹性成像技术,具有成像速度快、穿透力强的优势^[3-4]。依照弹性成像临床应用指南,STE归属于二维剪切波弹性成像类别,是评估肝脏硬度的主流技术。但STE与现有技术比较,有何优劣,还鲜有文献报道。本研究将STE新技术与较早二维剪切波弹性成像技术^[5](two-dimensional shear wave elastography, 2D-SWE)进行比较,旨在为STE新技术的临床应用提供循证依据。

1 材料与方 法

1.1 研究对象

2018年3月至2019年8月间,在中山大学附属第三医院就诊的106例受检者。其中健康志愿者43例,男24、女19例,年龄20~61(29.4 ± 9.77)岁,纳入标准:①年龄18岁以上;②无肝病史、超声检查肝脏未见异常;慢性乙型肝炎肝硬化患者63例,男48、女15,年龄19~78(49.2 ± 12.59)岁,纳入标准:①年龄18岁以上;②乙肝表面抗原阳性;③肝穿刺病理学活检诊断为肝硬化。本研究经中山大学附属第三医院伦理委员会批准,并经患者知情同意。

1.2 仪器与方法

1.2.1 仪器设备 STE检查采用迈瑞 Resona 7 彩色多普勒超声诊断仪,SC6-1U型凸阵探头,频率1~6 MHz;2D-SWE检查采用法国 Surpersonic Aixplorer型彩色多普勒超声诊断仪,SC6-1型凸阵探头,频率1~6 MHz。

1.2.2 受检者准备 要求空腹2 h以上,取平卧位,右手臂上抬、外展,暴露右侧季肋部。

1.2.3 检测方法 所有受检者均行STE和2D-SWE检查。检查方法参照指南^[6]及本研究团队前期发表的文献^[7-8]:探头置于右肋间肝右叶切

面,避开血管长轴,二维清晰显示肝实质,将弹性取样框上缘放置于肝包膜下约1 cm,适当加压固定探头,肘部支撑于患者体表加强稳定性,嘱患者平静呼吸状态下屏住呼吸,待弹性图像稳定后冻结图像并测量。两种技术各重复检测5次,取中位数。

1.2.4 检测成功标准 计算5次检测的成功率及变异度,要求成功率 $\geq 60\%$ 且变异度 $< 30\%$ 。

1.3 病理检查

所有肝硬化患者均行肝穿刺活检,采用16G或18G自动切割活检针。病理肝硬化诊断依据病毒性肝炎防治方案推荐标准^[9]。

1.4 统计学分析

采用SPSS16.0及MedCalc11.4统计软件。肝脏硬度以中位数和四分位数,即: $M(P_{25} \sim P_{75})$ 表示,组间比较采用秩和检验;成功率的比较采用卡方检验。操作者内重复性以5次重复测量的组内相关系数(intraclass correlation coefficient, ICC)表示,0.4~0.75为一致性好, ≥ 0.75 为一致性非常好;ICC间的比较采用Z检验。以 $P < 0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。

2 结 果

2.1 技术成功率比较

106例受检者STE检测全部成功,总成功率100%;2D-SWE检测成功102例,总成功率96.2%,两者比较差异无统计学意义($\chi^2=2.32, P=0.12$)。其中43例健康志愿者STE和2D-SWE均检测成功,检测成功率100%。63例肝硬化患者2D-SWE检测成功59例,检测失败4例(3例成功率 $< 60\%$ 、1例变异度 $> 30\%$),检测成功率93.7%;STE检测成功63例,检测成功率100%,两者比较差异无统计学意义($\chi^2=2.29, P=0.13$)。

2.2 检测结果比较

STE和2D-SWE均检测成功者102例,两种技

术的测值相关系数为0.896(95%置信区间:0.849~0.928, $P<0.001$), Bland-Altman 散点图见图1。STE与2D-SWE测值比较,在健康组STE高于2D-SWE,两者中位数差值为0.83 kPa,差异有统计学意义($Z=4.419, P<0.001$);而在肝硬化组STE低于2D-SWE,两者中位数差值为2.68kPa,差异有统计学意义($Z=-2.981, P=0.003$;表1、图2)。肝硬化组与健康组比较,肝硬化组明显高于健康组,差异有统计学意义(STE: $Z=8.319, P<0.001$ 、2D-SWE: $Z=8.516, P<0.001$;表1)。

2.3 检测重复性比较

STE和2D-SWE在健康志愿者组ICC分别为0.928(95%置信区间:0.888~0.957)和0.950(95%置

信区间:0.922~0.970),两者比较差异无统计学意义($Z=-0.836, P=0.403$);在肝硬化组ICC分别为0.981(95%置信区间:0.972~0.988)和0.995(95%置信区间:0.993~0.997),两者比较差异有统计学意义($Z=-3.551, P<0.001$)。

3 讨论

慢性肝病包括病毒性肝炎、酒精性肝病、非酒精性脂肪肝等,发病率高、危害大^[10-11],准确评价肝纤维化程度对治疗、预后评估及随访具有重要意义。弹性成像被推荐为评估肝纤维化的无创检查方法,已广泛应用于临床。然而,早期的瞬时弹性

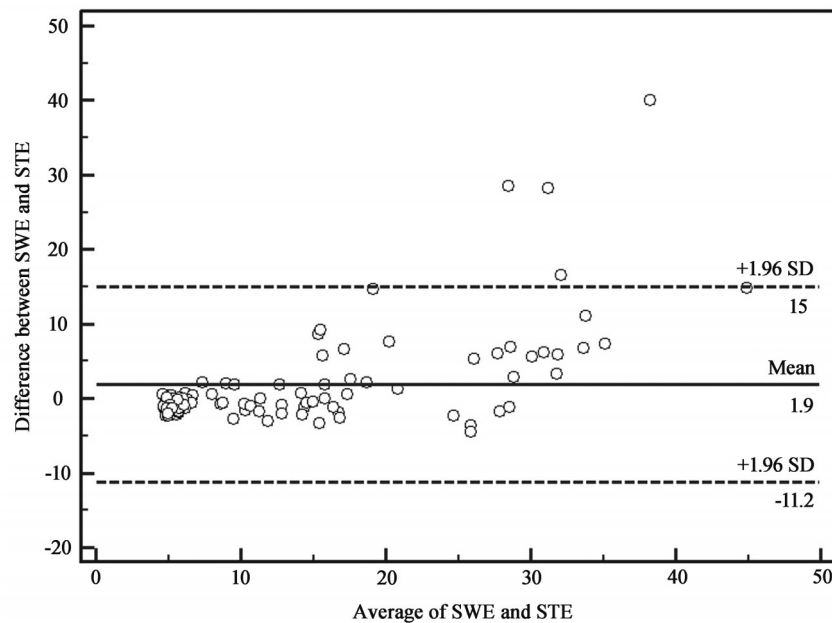


图1 声触诊弹性成像(STE)和二维剪切波弹性成像(2D-SWE)的Bland-Altman散点图

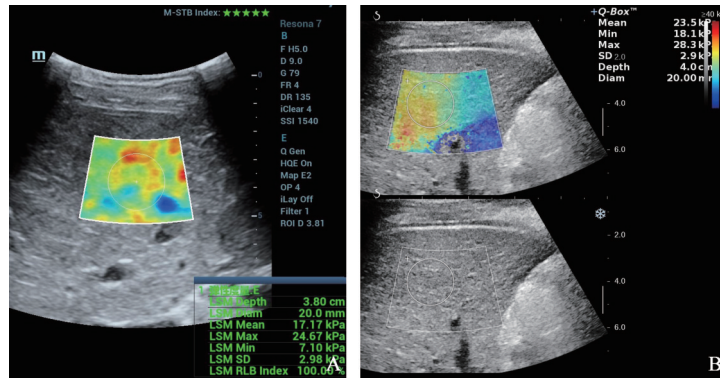
Fig.1 Bland-Altman plot of Sound touch elastography (STE) and two-dimensional shear wave elastography (SWE)

表1 声触诊弹性成像(STE)与二维剪切波弹性成像(2D-SWE)肝硬度测值的比较

Table 1 The comparison of sound touch elastography (STE) and two-dimensional shear wave elastography (2D-SWE) in liver stiffness measurement

| | Healthy group | Liver cirrhosis group | $Z^{1)}$ | $P^{1)}$ |
|-------------|-----------------|-----------------------|----------|----------|
| Cases | 43 | 59 | | |
| STE /kPa | 5.83(5.30~6.37) | 15.82(11.71~25.02) | 8.319 | <0.001 |
| 2D-SWE /kPa | 5.00(4.80~5.20) | 18.50(11.95~29.93) | 8.516 | <0.001 |
| $Z^{2)}$ | 4.419 | -2.981 | | |
| $P^{2)}$ | <0.001 | 0.003 | | |

¹⁾ healthy group compared with liver cirrhosis group; ²⁾STE compared with 2D-SWE



Sound touch elastography was 17.2kPa (A) and two-dimensional shear wave elastography was 23.5kPa (B) in a liver cirrhosis patients.

图2 同一例肝硬化患者声触诊弹性成像和二维剪切波弹性成像

Fig.2 Sound touch elastography and two-dimensional shear wave elastography in a liver cirrhosis patients

成像(transient elastography, TE)存在技术不足,如无二维超声的引导,肋间隙窄、肝前有腹水的患者应用受限等^[12]。声触诊弹性成像(sound touch elastography, STE)融合于彩色超声诊断仪,可以在普通超声的切面上精准取样,不受肝前腹水等限制,取样面积大、穿透力好,是临床上少有能实现实时、二维检测肝脏硬度的剪切波弹性成像技术之一^[13]。本研究团队前期研究了该技术检测肝脾硬度的可行性^[7],但与其他技术比较如何,还鲜有文献报道。

本研究结果表明,STE技术检测成功率高达100%,与2D-SWE技术比较无明显统计学差异。2D-SWE技术有4例肝硬化患者检测不成功,STE则均检测成功,说明STE穿透性较好,更适用于肝硬化肝脏硬度增高的患者;但2D-SWE在肝硬化患者的检测重复性高于STE,但两者的ICC均在0.9以上,重复性都非常好;在健康志愿者两种技术的重复性则无明显差异。STE和2D-SWE技术均是基于剪切波弹性成像的基本原理,因此本研究中两种技术的肝脏硬度测值并不直接等同。在肝脏硬度较低的健康志愿者,STE测值高于2D-SWE;而在肝脏硬度较高的肝硬化患者,呈现相反的趋势,STE测值反而低于2D-SWE。这可能是由于两种

技术虽然技术原理相似,但采用的剪切波中心频率不同,因此测值也不等同。有研究将STE与一维的TE技术进行了比较^[14],也表明了这种趋势:对于无肝纤维化的患者,STE测值高于TE(6.04 kPa vs. 4.60 kPa);对于病理证实的肝硬化患者STE测值低于TE(13.55 kPa vs. 21.05 kPa),与本研究结果一致。

因此,尽管国内、外均发布了弹性成像相关指南^[1,6,13],但临床上弹性成像技术种类繁多,不同的技术正常值标准、诊断阈值都不相同^[15],在临床应用需要特别注意。本研究结果显示,如果STE新技术直接采用现有的2D-SWE诊断标准,可能会高估病情,将正常人误诊为肝纤维化;而对于肝硬化患者则会低估病情,漏诊肝硬化。因此,STE新技术应当通过大样本建立适合的正常值标准、诊断阈值。

本研究仅纳入了健康志愿者和肝硬化患者,STE诊断肝纤维化的阈值与2D-SWE比较如何,还需要大样本、多中心、与病理对照的进一步研究。

总之,STE检测成功率高,尤其在肝硬化患者穿透性好、与2D-SWE比较更具优势;STE测值在健康志愿组高于、在肝硬化组低于2D-SWE;STE和2D-SWE检测肝硬度重复性均非常好。

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(编辑 孙慧兰)