

肝细胞癌中UBE2S互作蛋白的筛选及预后模型构建

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[摘要] **目的:** 筛选泛素结合酶E2S (UBE2S) 互作蛋白并构建肝细胞癌 (HCC) 基于UBE2S互作蛋白的预后模型 (UIPM), 分析UIPM评估HCC患者预后的价值。**方法:** 采用免疫共沉淀 (Co-IP) 技术筛选与Flag-UBE2S结合的蛋白复合体, 经十二烷基硫酸钠-聚丙烯酰胺凝胶电泳 (SDS-PAGE) 和Western blotting法验证后, 采用液相色谱-质谱联用仪 (LC-MS) 分析鉴定UBE2S互作蛋白, 并对互作蛋白进行基因本体论 (GO) 功能和京都基因与基因组百科全书 (KEGG) 信号通路富集分析。采用R软件survival包筛选癌症基因组图谱 (TCGA) 中HCC预后相关蛋白与UBE2S互作蛋白取交集, 通过LASSO回归分析从交集蛋白中获取关键蛋白构建UIPM, 并建立预后模型风险评分公式, 按照风险评分的中位值将TCGA中HCC患者分为高风险组和低风险组, 通过受试者工作特征曲线 (ROC) 评估UIPM的预测准确性, 并采用国际癌症基因组联盟 (ICGC) 数据库对UIPM预测准确性进行再次验证。采用单因素和多因素Cox回归分析评估UIPM风险评分是否为HCC的预后独立危险因素, 并进一步构建列线图模型。**结果:** Co-IP联合LC-MS分析得到97个UBE2S互作蛋白。GO功能和KEGG信号通路富集分析, 互作蛋白主要与半胱氨酸型内肽酶活性、氧化应激和细胞死亡有密切关联。TCGA筛选出5 163个HCC预后相关蛋白, 与UBE2S互作蛋白取交集, 获得40个预后相关互作蛋白, LASSO回归分析得到7个关键蛋白, 包括UBE2S、热休克蛋白家族A成员8 (HSPA8)、异质性胞核糖核蛋白H1 (HNRNPH1)、含TCP1伴侣蛋白亚基3 (CCT3)、真核翻译起始因子2亚基1 (EIF2S1)、活化蛋白C激酶1受体 (RACK1) 和肌动蛋白相关蛋白2/3复合体亚基4 (ARPC4), 并构建了UIPM, 高和低风险组HCC患者生存率比较差异有统计学意义 ($P < 0.05$)。ROC曲线, UIPM预测HCC患者1、2和3年UIPM风险评分的ROC曲线下面积 (AUC) 值均大于0.7, 表明预测模型准确度较高。ICGC数据库数据也证实UIPM预测准确度较高。单因素和多因素Cox回归分析, UIPM风险评分是HCC患者的独立预后危险因素 ($P < 0.05$)。列线图预测HCC患者生存率与实际生存率之间有较好的一致性。**结论:** 97个互作蛋白与UBE2S相互作用, 可能通过氧化应激和铁死亡相关通路的失调促进HCC发生发展。UIPM风险评分是HCC预后的独立危险因素, 可以用于预测HCC患者预后。而UBE2S、HSPA8、HNRNPH1、CCT3、EIF2S1、RACK1和ARPC4有望成为HCC新的生物标志物和治疗靶点。

[关键词] 泛素结合酶E2S; 肝细胞癌; 免疫共沉淀; 液相色谱-质谱联用仪; 预后分析

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Screening of UBE2S interacting protein and construction of prognostic model in hepatocellular carcinoma

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ABSTRACT Objective: To screen the interacting protein of ubiquitin-conjugating enzyme E2S (UBE2S) and construct the hepatocellular carcinoma (HCC) based on UBE2S interacting protein prognosis model (UIPM), and to discuss the value of UIPM in assessing the prognosis of the HCC patients. **Methods:** Co-immunoprecipitation (Co-IP) was used to screen the protein complexes binding to Flag-UBE2S. After validation by sodium dodecyl sulphate-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis (SDS-PAGE) and Western blotting methods; liquid chromatography-mass spectrometer (LC-MS) was used to identify the UBE2S interacting proteins; Gene Ontology (GO) functional enrichment analysis and Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes (KEGG) signaling pathway enrichment analysis were conducted on these proteins; the prognosis-related proteins from The Cancer Genome Atlas (TCGA) were cross-referenced with UBE2S interacting proteins by survival package of R software; the key proteins were extracted through LASSO regression analysis to build the UIPM; the prognostic model risk scoring formula was established. The HCC patients in TCGA were divided into high risk group and low risk group based on median value of the risk scores. The predictive accuracy of UIPM was evaluated by receiver operating characteristic curve (ROC), and the predictive accuracy was further validated by International Cancer Genome Consortium (ICGC) Database; univariate regression analysis and multivariate Cox regression analysis were used to detect whether the UIPM risk score was an independent prognostic factor for HCC. Furthermore, the nomogram model was built. **Results:** A total of 97 UBE2S interacting proteins were identified through Co-IP combined with LC-MS analysis. The GO functional enrichment analysis and KEGG signaling pathway enrichment analysis results showed that the interacting proteins were closely associated with cysteine-type endopeptidase activity, oxidative stress, and cell death. The TCGA revealed 5 163 HCC prognosis-related proteins; after intersecting with UBE2S interacting proteins, 40 prognosis-related interacting proteins were found. Seven key proteins were determined through LASSO regression analysis, including UBE2S, heat shock protein family A member 8 (HSPA8), heterogeneous nuclear ribonucleoprotein H1 (HNRNPH1), chaperonin containing TCP1 subunit 3 (CCT3), eukaryotic translation initiation factor 2 subunit 1 (EIF2S1), receptor for activated C kinase 1 (RACK1), and actin related protein 2/3 complex subunit 4 (ARPC4), and the UIPM was constructed. There was significant difference in survival rate of the patients between high risk group and low risk group ($P < 0.05$). The ROC curve analysis results showed the area under ROC curve (AUC) values of UIPM for predicting 1-year, 2-year, and 3-year survival risk scores of the HCC patients were all greater than 0.7, indicating the model had high predictive accuracy. This was also confirmed by ICGC Database data. The univariate and multivariate Cox regression analysis results showed that the UIPM risk score was an independent prognostic risk factor for the HCC patients ($P < 0.05$). The nomogram results showed good consistency between predicted survival rate and actual survival rate of the patient. **Conclusion:** A total of 97 interacting proteins that interact with UBE2S may promote the occurrence and development of HCC through oxidative stress and dysregulation of

ferroptosis pathways. The UIPM risk score is an independent risk factor for the prognosis of HCC and can be used to predict the outcomes of the patients. UBE2S, HSPA8, HNRNPH1, CCT3, EIF2S1, RACK1, and ARPC4 could be regarded as the new biomarkers and therapeutic targets for HCC.

KEYWORDS Ubiquitin-conjugating enzyme E2S; Hepatocellular carcinoma; Co-immunoprecipitation; Liquid chromatograph mass spectrometer; Prognostic analysis

肝癌是全球癌症相关死亡的主要原因之一,全球肝癌的发病率和死亡率呈上升趋势,2020年有905 677例新增病例和830 180例死亡病例^[1],其中中国有410 038例新增病例和391 152死亡病例^[2]。肝细胞癌(hepatocellular carcinoma, HCC)是原发性肝癌中最常见的类型,占原发性肝癌病例的75%~85%^[1],因此寻找相关靶分子并研究其作用机制对肝癌的防治十分重要。

泛素结合酶E2S(ubiquitin-conjugating enzyme E2S, UBE2S)是泛素结合酶家族成员,参与蛋白泛素化降解过程^[3]。研究^[4-13]显示:UBE2S与人类多种癌症有关,UBE2S在胃肠道系统、泌尿系统、神经系统、女性生殖系统、肺和乳腺的肿瘤组织中过表达。UBE2S驱动结肠癌^[4]、膀胱癌^[5]、胶质瘤^[6]、卵巢癌^[7-8]、宫颈癌^[9]、乳腺^[13]、人肺腺癌^[10-11]和非小细胞肺癌^[12]细胞的增殖、迁移和侵袭,并与其不良预后有关联。此外,研究^[6, 8]表明:UBE2S可能与胶质母细胞瘤的化疗耐药性和卵巢癌奥拉帕尼耐药有关。UBE2S还可作为一种新的p16和 β -连环蛋白的泛素化调控因子,促进前列腺癌的骨转移^[14]。研究^[15-17]显示:UBE2S可增强p53和p27的泛素化,促进HCC发展,并通过磷酸酯酶与张力蛋白同源物/蛋白激酶B(phosphatase and tensin homolog/protein kinase B, PTEN-AKT)信号通路促进HCC化疗耐药。本课题组前期研究^[18]证实:UBE2S高表达与HCC患者不良预后有明显相关性,UBE2S高表达患者总生存率和无病生存率明显降低。但UBE2S主要与何种蛋白发生直接或间接作用,进而影响HCC患者的预后还需要进一步研究。本研究采用免疫共沉淀(co-immunoprecipitation, Co-IP)技术筛选UBE2S结合的蛋白复合体并进行液相色谱-质谱联用仪(liquid chromatograph-mass spectrometer, LC-MS)分析,将经LC-MS获得的UBE2S互作蛋白进行基因本体论(Gene Ontology, GO)功能富集分析和京都基因与基因组百科全书(Kyoto Encyclopedia of Genes and Genomes, KEGG)信号功能富集分析,筛选出关键蛋白,构建基于

UBE2S互作蛋白的预后模型(UBE2S interaction protein prognosis model, UIPM),分析UIPM评估HCC患者预后的价值。

1 材料与方法

1.1 主要试剂和仪器 RIPA裂解液(P0013B)、抗Flag抗体(AF519)、硝酸银快速银染试剂盒(P0017S)和化学发光试剂BeyoECLPlus(P0018FM)(上海碧云天生物技术有限公司),辣根过氧化物酶(horseradish peroxidase, HRP)偶联的二抗(BA1056,武汉博士德生物工程有限公司),Flag-UBE2S蛋白表达载体和Co-IP试剂盒(Bes3011-1)(广州伯信生物科技有限公司)。化学发光成像仪(美国伯乐公司)。

1.2 采用Co-IP筛选与Flag-UBE2S特异结合的蛋白 对Flag-UBE2S蛋白表达载体进行测序验证。将Flag-UBE2S质粒转染人肝癌Hep3B细胞(本研究室保留并传代),转染48 h后收获细胞提取总蛋白,分为Input组(阳性对照组,全细胞裂解液,不进行后续的Co-IP)、Flag组(实验组,使用抗Flag抗体进行Co-IP)和IgG组(阴性对照组,使用IgG进行Co-IP),按照Co-IP试剂盒操作说明书进行,获得的蛋白沉淀物用于后续实验。

1.3 十二烷基硫酸钠-聚丙烯酰胺凝胶电泳(sodium dodecyl sulphate-polyacrylamide gel electrophoresis, SDS-PAGE)和Western blotting法检测各组细胞中Flag-UBE2S蛋白表达情况 分别取Input组、Flag组和IgG组的Co-IP产物10 μ L进行SDS-PAGE电泳,然后采用硝酸银快速银染试剂盒进行凝胶染色,分析各组蛋白表达情况。采用RIPA裂解液提取各组Hep3B细胞中的总蛋白,采用抗Flag抗体进行特异性印迹,与HRP偶联的二抗孵育后,加入化学发光试剂BeyoECLPlus,采用化学发光成像仪进行检测并获取图像,通过灰度值观察各组细胞中Flag-UBE2S蛋白表达情况。

1.4 LC-MS分析UBE2S互作蛋白 将Flag组和IgG组蛋白沉淀物送至广州伯信生物科技有限公司进行质谱定性鉴定分析,质谱原始文件转换为mgf

格式文件, 采用Mascot软件检索Uniprot数据库获取UBE2S互作蛋白。

1.5 UBE2S互作蛋白GO功能和KEGG信号通路富集分析 采用R软件ClusteProfiler包(3.14.3版本)对UBE2S互作蛋白进行GO功能和KEGG信号通路富集分析, 获得UBE2S互作蛋白的分子功能(molecular function, MF)、生物学过程(biological process, BP)和细胞成分(cellular components, CC)GO功能富集分析及KEGG信号通路富集分析数据。

1.6 UBE2S互作蛋白与癌症基因组图谱(The Cancer Genome Atlas, TCGA)数据库中HCC预后相关蛋白的韦恩图分析 由TCGA数据库(<https://portal.gdc.cancer.gov/>)中获取374例HCC样本的转录表达数据和相对应的HCC患者临床信息。采用R软件survival包(3.3.1)对数据进行生存分析(以中位值为分界线)获得HCC预后相关蛋白, 以 $P < 0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。采用R软件ggplot2(3.3.6)包和VennDiagram包对互作蛋白与TCGA数据库的HCC预后相关蛋白取交集并进行可视化, 获得与HCC预后相关的互作蛋白。

1.7 UIPM构建和验证 为建立HCC患者风险评分模型, 采用R软件glmnet包对TCGA数据库中获取的374例HCC样本中预后相关互作蛋白转录表达数据和相对应的HCC患者临床信息进行LASSO回归分析, 进行1000次LASSO回归迭代和10倍交叉验证, 以减少共线性的影响, 提高模型的准确性^[19], 从而将互作蛋白缩小为7个与HCC预后相关的关键互作蛋白, 选取1000次LASSO回归迭代中最高的LASSO值作为HCC预后相关互作蛋白的LASSO系数, 并对数据进行可视化得到HCC的UIPM。

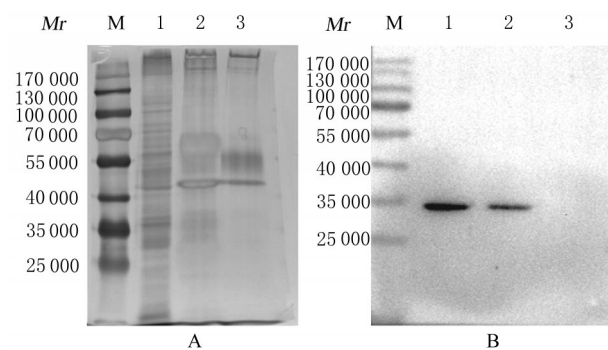
由TCGA数据库和国际癌症基因组联盟(International Cancer Genome Consortium, ICGC)数据库(<https://dcc.icgc.org/>)分别下载374例和212例HCC样本基因转录表达数据和相应的HCC患者临床信息。根据UIPM对每例患者进行风险评分, 按评分中位值将患者分为高风险组(374例)和低风险组(212例), 采用R软件survival包(3.14.3)通过Kaplan-Meier分析和Log-rank检验比较高风险组和低风险组患者总生存时间(overall survival, OS)是否有差异来评估风

险模型的预测准确性, 并绘制风险生存曲线, 以 $P < 0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。采用pROC包(1.17.0.1)对高风险组和低风险组样本进行时间依赖性受试者工作特征曲线(receiver operating characteristic curve, ROC)分析, 进一步评估风险模型的预测准确性, ROC曲线下面积(area under curve, AUC)值为0.5~1.0表示具有50%~100%的预测能力。

1.8 独立危险因素分析和列线图模型构建 采用单因素和多因素Cox回归分析对不同临床特征(T分期、N分期、肿瘤状态、种族、年龄及性别)和UIPM风险评分在HCC患者预后评估中的价值进行分析, 并采用ggplot2包(3.3.3)构建森林图, 以 $P < 0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。采用RMS包(6.2-0)和survival包(3.2-10)选取与HCC患者预后明显相关的临床病理特征和UIPM风险评分, 构建HCC患者1、3和5年生存率预测模型列线图 and 校准图, 患者1、3和5年生存率通过由总点轴直线至结果轴画一条垂线来确定。

2 结果

2.1 Co-IP筛选Flag-UBE2S蛋白 Co-IP产物的SDS-PAGE银染结果显示: Input组和Flag组在相对分子质量35 000附近均有条带(图1A)。Western blotting法检测结果显示: Input组和Flag组均检测到Flag-UBE2S蛋白(图1B)。



A: SDS-PAGE silver staining; B: Western blotting method. M: Marker; Lane 1: Input group; Lane 2: Flag group; Lane 3: IgG group.

图1 Co-IP产物检测结果

Fig. 1 Detection results of Co-IP product

2.2 LC-MS分析UBE2S互作蛋白 取Co-IP样品进行LC-MS分析, 去除IgG组的非特异性蛋白后结果显示: 潜在的UBE2S互作蛋白有97个。得

分排名前20位蛋白信息见表1。

2.3 GO功能和KEGG信号通路富集分析 对97个UBE2S互作蛋白进行GO功能和KEGG信号通路富集分析,结果显示:与BP关联明显富集的共有256条,包括氧化应激反应、凋亡信号通路的调控、细胞对氧化应激的反应和凋亡信号通路中半胱氨酸型内肽酶活性的调控等;与CC关联明显富集的共有92条,包括黏着斑、核糖体、肌动蛋白细胞骨架、中间丝和氧化还原酶复合体等;与MF关联明显富集的共有68条,包括核糖体绑定、抗氧化活性、氧气结合、氧化还原酶活性和腺嘌呤核苷酸跨膜转运蛋白活性等;KEGG信号通路明显富集的共有22条,包括核糖体、氨基酸的生物合成、Fc γ 受体(Fc γ receptor, Fc γ R)介导的吞噬作用、肌动蛋白细胞骨架的调节和病毒致癌作用等。见图2。

2.4 UBE2S互作蛋白与TCGA数据库中HCC预后相关蛋白的韦恩图 TCGA数据库数据中共有5163个与HCC预后明显相关的蛋白。97个潜在的UBE2S互作蛋白与TCGA数据库中HCC预后蛋白取交集获得40个互作蛋白(图3),排名前20位的

蛋白见表2。

2.5 UIPM构建和验证 通过LASSO回归分析,对相关性较高的基因进行过滤,防止过度拟合,以达到减少构建模型所需基因的目的。在LASSO回归的1000次迭代中出现的非零系数越高,该基因预测预后的能力就越强,从而筛选出40个交集蛋白中的关键蛋白,并得到其最佳LASSO系数(图4A)。通过交叉验证得到了UBE2S、热休克蛋白家族A成员8(heat shock protein family A member 8, HSPA8)、异质性胞核核糖核蛋白H1(heterogeneous nuclear ribonucleoprotein H1, HNRNPH1)、含TCP1伴侣蛋白亚基3(chaperonin containing TCP1 subunit 3, CCT3)、真核翻译起始因子2亚基1(eukaryotic translation initiation factor 2 subunit 1, EIF2S1)、活化蛋白C激酶1受体(receptor for activated C kinase 1, RACK1)和肌动蛋白相关蛋白2/3复合体亚基4(actin related protein 2/3 complex subunit 4, ARPC4)7个关键蛋白,用于构建UIPM(图4B)。基于7个关键蛋白的最佳LASSO系数和蛋白表达水平,建立UIPM风险评分公式,UIPM风险评分=0.105 \times

表1 LC-MS分析得分排名前20位蛋白信息

Tab. 1 Informations of top 20 ranked proteins by score analyzed by LC-MS

PF number	Accession	Score	Mass	Match	Sequence	emPAI	Protein
3	P08670	873	53 676	24	16	3.17	VIM
6	P62736	588	42 381	26	13	3.49	ACTA2
9	P13645	509	59 020	11	8	0.82	KRT10
11	Q92614	385	234 168	6	5	0.09	MYO18A
13	P11142	330	71 082	6	5	0.31	HSPA8
14	P06733	314	47 481	6	5	0.50	ENO1
15	P35527	311	62 255	5	5	0.29	KRT9
16	P35908	294	65 678	7	6	0.41	KRT2
17	P02533	282	51 872	6	5	0.45	KRT14
18	P08779	277	51 578	6	5	0.45	KRT16
20	P25705	245	59 828	3	3	0.17	ATP5F1A
22	P11021	231	72 402	5	5	0.25	HSPA5
24	Q9BQE3	212	50 548	5	4	0.37	TUBA1C
25	P06396	195	86 043	6	4	0.25	GSN
26	P23396	190	26 842	4	4	0.60	RPS3
27	P07437	175	50 095	4	4	0.29	TUBB
30	A0A075B6S2	133	13 249	4	2	0.58	IGKV2D-29
31	P01023	125	164 613	2	2	0.04	A2M
32	P52272	122	77 749	3	2	0.13	HNRNPM
33	P13929	117	47 299	2	2	0.14	ENO3

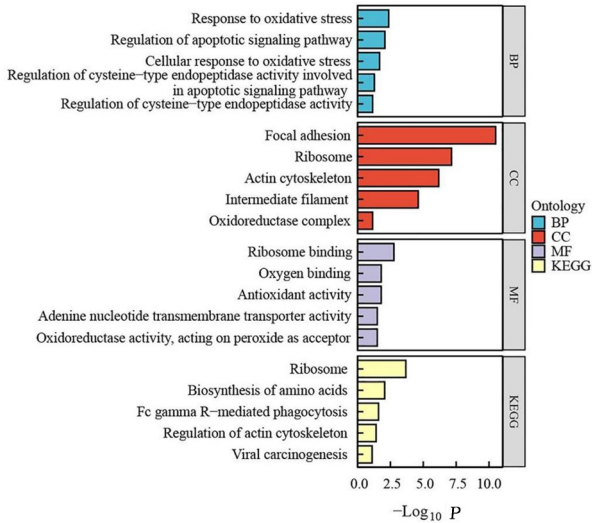


图2 UBE2S 交互蛋白的 GO 功能和 KEGG 信号通路富集分析

Fig. 2 GO functional and KEGG signaling pathway enrichment analysis on UBE2S interacting proteins

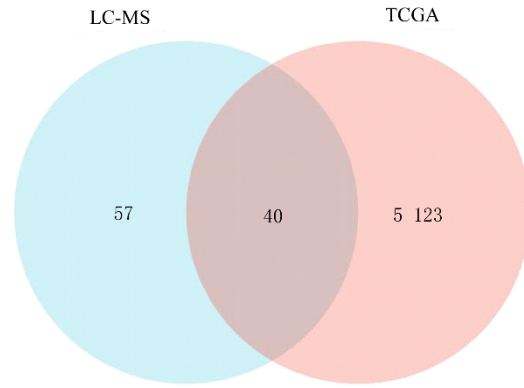


图3 UBE2S 交互蛋白与 TCGA 数据库中 HCC 预后相关蛋白的韦恩图

Fig. 3 Venn diagram of UBE2S interacting proteins and HCC prognostic-related proteins in TCGA Database

表2 韦恩图中排名前20位蛋白信息

Tab. 2 Informations of top 20 ranked proteins in Venn diagram

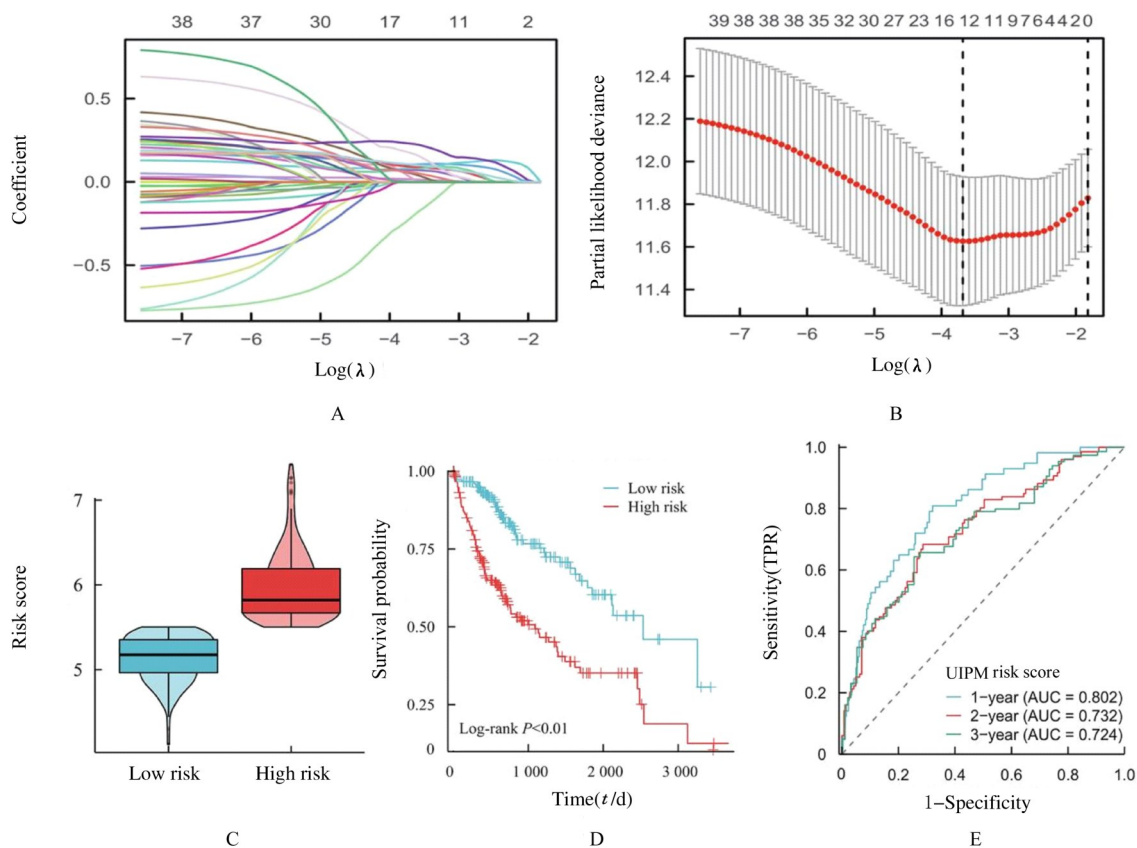
Gene name	Gene ID	Gene biotype	HR	95% CI	<i>P</i> _{Cox}
CCT3	ENSG00000163468	Protein coding	2.087	1.459–2.985	5.63687E-05
TUBA1C	ENSG00000167553	Protein coding	2.040	1.433–2.904	7.63003E-05
ARPC4	ENSG00000241553	Protein coding	2.048	1.433–2.928	8.44439E-05
ENO1	ENSG00000074800	Protein coding	1.982	1.390–2.826	0.000 156 723
HNRNPH1	ENSG00000169045	Protein coding	1.950	1.366–2.784	0.000 236 773
PRDX1	ENSG00000117450	Protein coding	1.899	1.338–2.696	0.000 333 502
H2AZ1	ENSG00000164032	Protein coding	1.902	1.335–2.710	0.000 369 261
IDH3B	ENSG00000101365	Protein coding	1.840	1.294–2.615	0.000 684 482
RAB6A	ENSG00000175582	Protein coding	1.831	1.287–2.605	0.000 769 835
SLC2A1	ENSG00000117394	Protein coding	1.813	1.275–2.577	0.000 926 358
PKM	ENSG00000067225	Protein coding	1.807	1.271–2.568	0.000 975 417
EIF2S1	ENSG00000134001	Protein coding	1.774	1.246–2.524	0.001 459 454
SLC25A3	ENSG00000075415	Protein coding	1.758	1.239–2.495	0.001 574 133
YWHAZ	ENSG00000164924	Protein coding	1.758	1.238–2.496	0.001 614 956
CAPZA2	ENSG00000198898	Protein coding	1.740	1.221–2.477	0.002 150 215
RPL18	ENSG00000063177	Protein coding	1.723	1.214–2.447	0.002 339 329
CALM1	ENSG00000198668	Protein coding	1.709	1.200–2.432	0.002 938 229
AKR1B10	ENSG00000198074	Protein coding	1.711	1.198–2.444	0.003 143 354
WTAP	ENSG00000146457	Protein coding	1.704	1.196–2.427	0.003 170 283
ACTR3	ENSG00000115091	Protein coding	1.670	1.177–2.369	0.004 042 542

UBE2S+0.057×HSPA8+0.050×HNRNPH1+0.229×CCT3+0.074×EIF2S1+0.023×RACK1+0.172×ARPC4。根据 UIPM 风险评分的中位数 (5.076) 将 TCGA 数据库中 374 例患者分为高风险

组和低风险组 (图 4C)。高和低风险组 HCC 患者生存率比较差异有统计学意义 ($P<0.01$) (图 4D), 表明根据 UIPM 进行分组, 对患者预后进行预测具有一定的准确性。UIPM 的 ROC 曲线

结果显示:该模型预测HCC患者1、2和3年UIPM风险评分的AUC值分别为0.802、0.732和

0.724,均大于0.7,再次证实该模型可以较好地评估HCC患者预后(图4E)。



A: LASSO regression analysis path diagram of UIPM; B: Cross validation curve of LASSO regression analysis on UIPM; C: Diagram of risk score; D: Survival curve of HCC patients; E: ROC curve of UIPM.

图4 UIPM的构建和验证

Fig. 4 Construction and verification of UIPM

采用ICGC数据库中肝细胞肝癌(liver hepatocellular carcinoma, LIHC)数据作为外部数据进行验证,根据上述构建模型的风险评分中位值将HCC患者分为高风险组和低风险组(图5A),高风险组和低风险组HCC患者OS比较差异有统计学意义($P=0.008$)(图5B),ROC曲线结果显示:UIPM模型预测HCC患者1、2和3年生存率的AUC值接近0.7(图5C),表明该模型可以预测HCC患者预后,并具有一定的临床适用性。

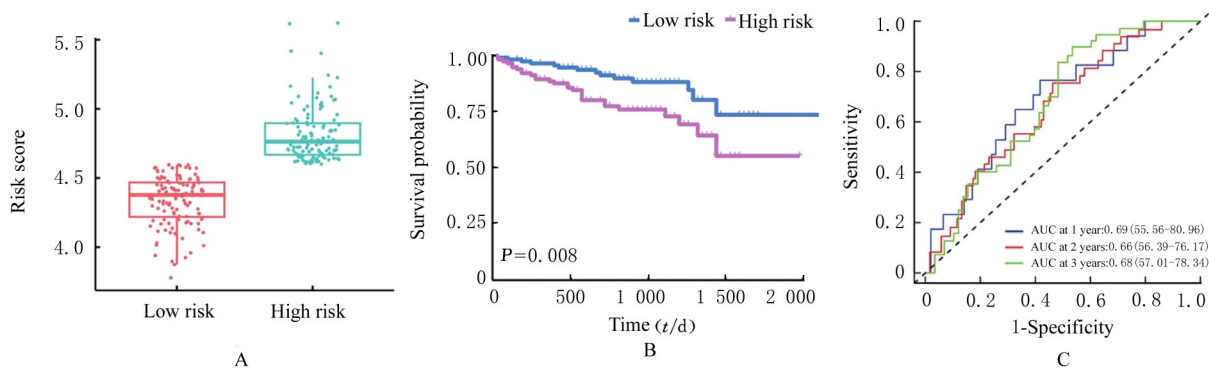
2.6 独立危险因素分析和列线图模型构建 采用单因素Cox回归分析对HCC患者临床特征中T分期、N分期、肿瘤状态、种族、年龄、性别和UIPM风险评分与HCC患者预后的关系进行分析,结果显示:T分期、肿瘤状态和UIPM风险评分与HCC患者预后有明显相关性($P<0.05$)。多因素

Cox回归分析证实:UIPM风险评分是HCC患者的独立危险因素。见图6。

基于Cox回归分析结果,选取与HCC患者预后明显相关的临床特征T分期、肿瘤状态和UIPM风险评分,构建列线图预测模型,结果显示:UIPM风险评分越高,对预测模型的贡献越大,HCC患者1、3和5年的生存率越低(图7A)。预测模型列线图的校准图显示:患者1、3和5年实际生存率线与理想情况灰色线接近,说明该列线图预测能力较好(图7B)。

3 讨论

本研究中Co-IP和LC-MS分析结果显示:Flag-UBE2S特异结合的蛋白中存在97个潜在的UBE2S互作蛋白;GO功能和KEGG信号通路富



A: Diagram of risk score; B: Survival curve of HCC patients; C: ROC curve of UIPM.

图5 UIPM的验证 (ICGC数据库)

Fig. 5 Verification of UIPM (ICGC Database)

Characteristic	Number [n(%)]	P	HR (95% CI)
Univariate Cox regression analysis			
T stage			
T1	183 (49.3)		
T2	95 (25.6)	0.128	1.431 (0.902-2.268)
T3	80 (21.6)	<0.01	2.674 (1.761-4.060)
T4	13 (3.5)	<0.01	5.386 (2.690-10.784)
N stage			
N0	254 (98.4)		
N1	4 (1.6)	0.324	2.029 (0.497-8.281)
Tumor status			
Tumor free	202 (56.9)		
With tumor	153 (43.1)	<0.01	2.317 (1.590-3.376)
Age			
≤ 60	177 (47.5)		
> 60	196 (52.5)	0.295	1.205 (0.850-1.708)
Gender			
Female	121 (32.4)		
Male	252 (67.4)	0.200	0.793 (0.557-1.130)
UIPM			
Low risk	184(50.0)		
High risk	184(50.0)	<0.01	3.535 (2.596-4.812)
Race			
Asian	159(44.0)		
Black or African American	17(4.7)	0.290	1.585 (0.675-3.725)
White	185(51.3)	0.144	1.323 (0.909-1.928)
Multivariate Cox regression analysis			
T stage			
T1	183 (49.3)		
T2	95 (25.6)	0.839	1.067 (0.571-1.992)
T3	80 (21.6)	0.018	1.964 (1.120-3.443)
T4	13 (3.5)	0.037	2.959 (1.069-8.191)
Tumor status			
Tumor free	202 (56.9)		
With tumor	153 (43.1)	0.017	1.782(1.111-2.858)
UIPM			
Low risk	184(50.0)		
High risk	184(50.0)	<0.01	3.320 (2.165-5.091)

图6 Cox回归分析森林图

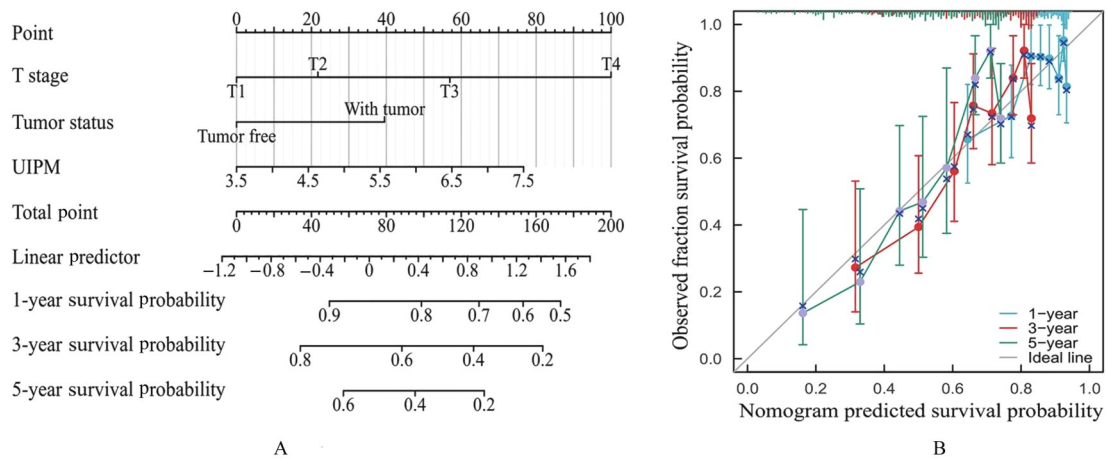
Fig. 6 Forest plot of Cox regression analysis

集分析结果显示：上述互作蛋白与半胱氨酸型内肽酶活性、氧化应激和细胞死亡有关。半胱氨酸在γ-谷氨酰半胱氨酸合成酶催化下与谷氨酸结合形成γ-谷氨酰半胱氨酸，γ-谷氨酰半胱氨酸与甘氨酸在谷胱甘肽合成酶催化下生成谷胱甘肽^[20]。细胞膜中脂质过氧化物的过度积累可引起铁死亡，而谷胱甘肽在谷胱甘肽过氧化物酶催化下，可以将过氧化脂质还原为脂醇，抑制铁死亡^[21-22]。研究^[23-24]表明：氧化应激的关键转录因子核因子E2相关因子2 (nuclear factor-E2-related factor 2, NRF2) 可以通过激活多个经典靶基因的表达来缓解铁死亡，

而氧化应激是有机体进行有氧代谢时产生的活性氧过度堆积而产生的，也能导致细胞死亡。以上结果均提示：上述互作蛋白可能通过影响细胞氧化应激和铁死亡来影响HCC的发生发展。

本研究中韦氏图分析结果显示：97个潜在的UBE2S互作蛋白中有40个与HCC预后有关联，且其中一些蛋白已被证实与HCC有关。微管蛋白α家族1c (tubulin alpha 1c, TUBA1C) 促进肝细胞癌的迁移和增殖，并与HCC预后不良有关^[25]；烯醇化酶1 (enolase 1, ENO1) 调节整合素α6β4的表达，促进HCC的生长和转移^[26]；血清外泌体HNRNPH1可作为肝细胞癌的新标志物^[27]；Wilms瘤1关联蛋白 (Wilms tumor 1 associated protein, WTAP) 通过m6A-HuR依赖的重组ETS原癌基因1 (ETS proto-oncogene 1, ETS1) 表观遗传沉默促进HCC的进展^[28]。大多数互作蛋白与HCC的关系尚未见报道，如H2A组蛋白家族成员Z1 (H2A histone family member Z1, H2AZ1)、异柠檬酸脱氢酶3 (NAD⁺) β [isocitrate dehydrogenase 3 (NAD⁺) beta, IDH3B]、RAS相关蛋白Rab-6A (RAS-related protein Rab-6A, RAB6A) 和核糖体蛋白L18 (ribosomal protein L18, RPL18) 等，本研究结果为今后对HCC的研究提供了更多的候选蛋白和新的研究思路。

本文作者构建了较为准确的UIPM用于HCC患者生存风险评分，且TCGA和ICGC数据库数据的生存曲线和ROC曲线均证实了该模型的准确性，UIPM风险评分结果显示：UBE2S、HSPA8、HNRNPH1、CCT3、EIF2S1、RACK1和ARPC4蛋白表达水平越高，UIPM风险评分也越高。已有研究^[18, 29-31]表明：UBE2S高表达与HCC患者不良



A: Nomogram predicting; B: Calibration curve of nomogram.

图7 列线图模型预测和验证

Fig. 7 Prediction and verification of nomogram model

预后存在明显相关关系, HSPA8在HCC中高表达并与肿瘤免疫有关, RACK1可促进HCC的发生, ARPC2可促进HCC细胞增殖和侵袭, 与本研究UIPM风险评分结果一致, 表明上述7个预后相关蛋白促进了HCC的发生发展。本研究中单因素和多因素Cox回归分析结果显示: UIPM风险评分是HCC患者的预后独立危险因素, 结合传统临床特征和UIPM风险评分构建了列线图, UIPM风险评分对整个列线图的预后评分贡献大。本研究结果提示: 包含UIPM风险评分的列线图是预测HCC患者预后的简单而准确的方法。

综上所述, 本研究筛选了97个UBE2S的互作蛋白, 其中40个蛋白与HCC预后相关, 获得7个关键蛋白, 构建了UIPM, 且UIPM风险评分是HCC患者的预后独立危险因素。此外, 本研究表明: UBE2S对HCC的影响可能与氧化应激和铁死亡有关, 该结果为揭示UBE2S在HCC发生发展中的作用提供了新的理论依据, 同时上述40个互作蛋白和7个预后相关蛋白为进一步研究HCC发生发展机制提供了新的研究方向。

利益冲突声明:

所有作者声明不存在利益冲突。

作者贡献声明:

王小燕参与实验操作、数据分析和论文撰写, 张豪、郭泽皓和曹骏参与实验操作、数据分析和论文修改, 莫之婧参与研究立项、实验设计、数据分析、论文撰写和论文修改。

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