

# 基于 LC-MS/MS 测定 人体类固醇激素的研究进展

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**摘要:**类固醇激素是一类具有环戊烷多氢菲结构的化合物,由细胞色素 P450 酶催化形成,在调节机体代谢、促进性器官发育等方面起着重要作用。临床上将类固醇激素水平作为肾上腺疾病、精神类疾病等的诊断指标。液相色谱-串联质谱(LC-MS/MS)联用技术因具有高灵敏度、高通量和高专属性的特点,已成为类固醇临床测定的首选方法。本文综述了 LC-MS/MS 在内源性类固醇激素测定中的应用,特别是在样品前处理、色谱条件和质谱条件优化等方面的研究进展,为临床上类固醇激素的诊断检测提供参考。

**关键词:**类固醇激素;液相色谱-串联质谱(LC-MS/MS);样品前处理;色谱条件;质谱条件  
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## Research Progress in the Determination of Human Steroid Hormones Based on LC-MS/MS

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**Abstract:** In human body, the endocrine system, nervous system and immune system jointly shoulder the important responsibility of life support. Hormones are the material basis for coordination of endocrine system. Steroid hormones, also known as steride hormone, belong to a large category of hormones. The synthesis process of steroid hormones takes cholesterol as the precursor. Through the participation of various metabolic

enzymes, steroid hormones are synthesized in the human adrenal cortex, mitochondria of placental cells, smooth Endoplasmic reticulum and gonads, producing 21C, 19C or 18C-backbones with different chemical structures. According to pharmacological effects, steroid hormones are mainly divided into progestogens, corticosteroids and sex hormones, which play an important role in regulating human growth, development, reproduction and maintaining the stability of human body environment. In clinical practice, the level of steroid hormones is used as diagnostic indicator for adrenal and psychiatric diseases. Therefore, accurate determination of steroid hormone content is very important. Steroid hormones in the human body can be detected using various methods, such as radioimmunoassay, chemiluminescence immunoassay, enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay, gas chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry (GC-MS/MS), and liquid chromatography-tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS). Mass spectrometry has obvious advantages in terms of detection sensitivity and accuracy compared with immunoassay. GC-MS has been the main technique for steroid analysis due to its high specificity, wide analyte coverage, and sufficient sensitivity. However, the samples need to be derivatized, and the experimental processes are tedious. LC-MS/MS has the inherent advantages of high sensitivity and specificity, and has a high-throughput characteristic, thus it is an ideal tool for routine diagnosis. At present, common pretreatment techniques for serum samples include protein precipitation, liquid-liquid extraction, and solid phase extraction. Some new pretreatment methods have emerged in recent years, such as dispersed liquid-liquid extraction, ultrasonic-assisted extraction, and supramolecular extraction. Each pretreatment technique has its own advantages and disadvantages. For example, solid phase extraction (SPE) can achieve good recovery but requires more time and economic factors. In selection of pretreatment methods, the physical and chemical properties of analytes, the characteristics of matrices, the simplicity and durability of method establishment, and time, reliability, and cost required should be comprehensively considered. This article reviewed the application of LC-MS/MS in the determination of endogenous steroid hormones, especially in sample pretreatment, chromatographic and mass spectrometric conditions, so as to provide more accurate basis for clinical diagnosis and treatment based on steroid hormones.

**Key words:** steroid hormones; liquid chromatography tandem mass spectrometry (LC-MS/MS); sample pretreatment; chromatographic conditions; mass spectrometric conditions

人体内的内分泌系统、神经系统、免疫系统共同承担生命持续的重要责任。激素是内分泌系统实现协调作用的物质基础。类固醇激素(steroid hormone)又称甾体激素,属于激素中的一大类,其合成过程以胆固醇为前体,通过各种代谢酶的参与,在人体的肾上腺皮质、胎盘细胞的线粒体、平滑内质网和性腺中合成,产生化学结构不同的 21C、19C、18C 骨架,合成过程示于图 1。根据药理作用,类固醇激素主要分为

孕激素、皮质激素、性激素,它们在人体的生长、发育、生殖以及维持体内环境稳定等方面起着重要的调节作用。激素通过在人体靶细胞上与受体结合而发挥作用,具有极高的专属性。当体内类固醇激素水平下降时,机体会产生严重的症候群,甚至危及生命。因此,临床上将类固醇激素水平作为许多疾病的诊断指标,如先天性肾上腺增生、库欣综合征、原发性醛固酮增多症、以及一些精神类疾病<sup>[1]</sup>,示于图2。由于大

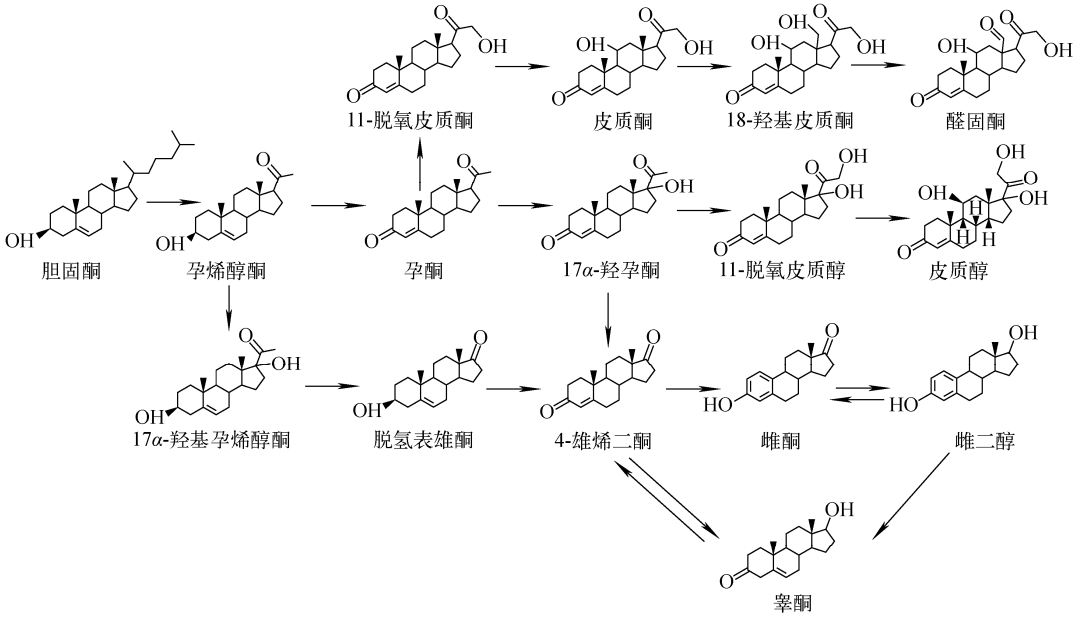


图 1 类固醇激素在人体内的合成路径

Fig. 1 Synthesis pathways of steroid hormones in the human body

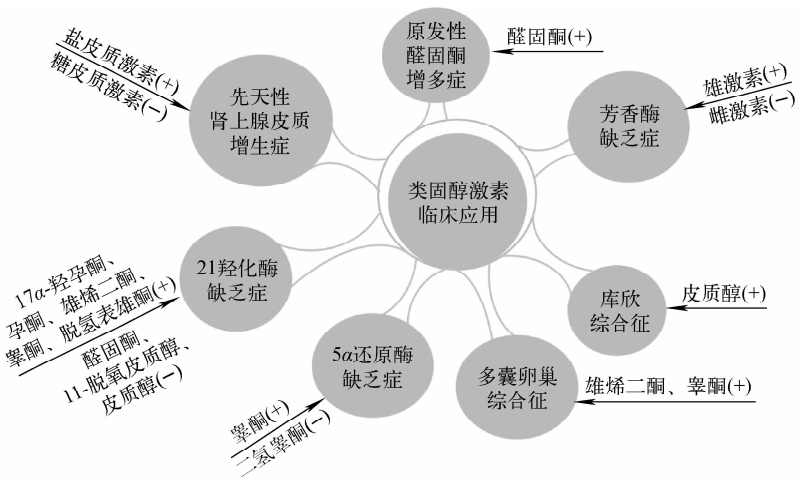


图 2 类固醇激素含量变化引起的临床疾病

Fig. 2 Clinical diseases caused by changing the levels of steroid hormones

多数激素在体内极微量,且化学性质差异较大,寻找一种准确、特异的分析方法是临床疾病诊断的首要任务。

在人体内,内源性类固醇激素含量一般为 nmol/L(皮质醇、脱氢表雄酮等)和 pmol/L(睾酮、雌酮等)量级,并且根据个体差异而变化,因此,低浓度类固醇激素的准确测定面临巨大挑战<sup>[2]</sup>。目前,检测人体内类固醇激素的方法包括放射免疫测定法、酶联免疫吸附(ELISA)法、化学发光免疫测定法、气相色谱-串联质谱

(GC-MS/MS)法和液相色谱-串联质谱(LC-MS/MS)法。其中,质谱法在检测灵敏度和准确度方面具有明显优势,LC-MS/MS可以与高通量分析相结合,是常规检测类固醇激素的理想工具。近年来,基于 LC-MS 法的激素检测类综述文章侧重点不同。Gravitte 等<sup>[3]</sup>综述了 LC-MS/MS 在内源性性激素定量中的应用;Hawley 等<sup>[4]</sup>对基于 LC-MS/MS 法测量内源性糖皮质激素进行综述,涉及血清、尿液和唾液皮质醇;徐玲燕等<sup>[5]</sup>综述了 LC-MS/MS 法在临

床内源性类固醇激素分析方面的应用及进展,特别是样品前处理、色谱及质谱条件方面,并简要阐述了该方法在肾上腺皮质激素及性激素测量方面的特点;金陈飞等<sup>[6]</sup>综述了 LC-MS/MS 用于先天性肾上腺皮质增生症患者诊治的研究进展,明确了 LC-MS/MS 有避免非特异性物质干扰、解决免疫分析法的高假阳性、检测标本多样化及能够进行快速类固醇代谢分析的优势;鹿倩等<sup>[7]</sup>归纳对比了近几年检测血液中类固醇激素常用的分析方法,为类固醇激素水平的准确测定提供了思路。

本文将从样品前处理方法、色谱条件、质谱条件,以及质谱新技术等方面进行综述,探究色谱-质谱联用技术在测定人体内类固醇激素方面的研究进展,为肾上腺相关疾病的诊断检测提供参考。

## 1 样品前处理

质谱技术在临床监测中具有许多优势,但由于样本基质的复杂性,血液、尿液和头发等生物样本不能直接送入质谱仪分析<sup>[8]</sup>,需要去除样品中的大分子干扰物,其中的蛋白质会导致仪器堵塞,盐和磷脂引起的基质效应会影响电离效率<sup>[9]</sup>。因此,生物样本需经过一系列的前处理过程以提高分析的准确性和灵敏度<sup>[10-11]</sup>。

目前,常用的样品前处理方法有蛋白质沉淀(PPT)<sup>[12]</sup>、液液萃取(LLE)<sup>[13-14]</sup>和固相萃取(SPE)<sup>[15]</sup>。近年来还出现了一些新的前处理方法,如分散液液萃取<sup>[16]</sup>、超声波辅助提取法<sup>[17]</sup>和超分子萃取<sup>[18]</sup>等。为了得到目标化合物高回收率,将多种前处理方法相结合已逐渐受到关注<sup>[19-20]</sup>。在样品前处理方法选择上,应考虑分析物和样本基质的性质、衡量方法的可行性、以及前处理所需的时间和成本等因素<sup>[21]</sup>。

### 1.1 蛋白沉淀

PPT 是通过在生物样品中加入沉淀剂使蛋白质变性沉淀,然后将目标分析物从样品中提取出来的方法<sup>[8]</sup>。有机溶剂(甲醇、乙腈或丙酮)、酸(三氯乙酸、高氯酸、偏磷酸和钨酸)、盐(氯化铝)和金属离子(硫酸锌)等被认为是 PPT 中最常用的沉淀剂<sup>[22]</sup>。有机溶剂会干扰蛋白质的分子内疏水相互作用,同时减少水合

作用(水化程度较低的蛋白质不易溶解),可溶性蛋白质通常具有被亲水表面包围的疏水中心,这些蛋白质的电离状态可以通过添加酸或碱来改变<sup>[12]</sup>。

Ionita 等<sup>[23]</sup>采用 LC-MS/MS 法检测人血浆中皮质醇、可的松和泼尼松,具有较高的特异性,准确度和精密度均在 $\pm 15.0\%$ 以内。Owen 等<sup>[24]</sup>利用 LC-MS/MS 法分析血清皮质醇,采用硫酸锌沉淀蛋白的前处理方法,血清样本中添加皮质醇后的平均回收率为 99.0%,通过与 2 种商品化免疫测定法对比,该方法具有较高的准确度和精密度。Polson 等<sup>[25]</sup>对比了有机溶剂、酸、盐和金属离子 4 种蛋白质沉淀剂,以评估不同种类沉淀剂的蛋白质去除效率,在血清与沉淀剂体积比为 2:1 时,乙腈、三氯乙酸、硫酸锌可分别去除 92.0%、91.0%、96.0% 的血清蛋白,因此认为这 3 种沉淀剂具有较好的沉淀效果。PPT 法简单、快速,但由于提取物的灵敏度和纯净度较低,需要在方法验证阶段反复验证。对于皮质醇或脱氢表雄酮硫酸盐,它们在人体内的含量相对较高,前处理阶段不需要考虑样本被沉淀剂稀释的问题;而对于人体中含量较少的雌二醇或醛固酮等化合物,沉淀剂沉淀不完全会对结果产生较大影响<sup>[26]</sup>。此外,对于某些小分子化合物,该方法并不能很好地消除基质效应,反而会产生较强的基质效应而影响质谱信号<sup>[27]</sup>。随着前处理技术的飞速发展,PPT 已作为大多数前处理程序的第一步,后续将结合 LLE 或 SPE 纯化和浓缩来实现高灵敏检测<sup>[10]</sup>。

### 1.2 液液萃取

LLE 是利用待测物在两相溶液中溶解度的不同,通过涡旋、超声、振荡等手段提取目标物的方法<sup>[28]</sup>,因样品制备简单而被广泛应用<sup>[29-31]</sup>。在该方法中,萃取剂的选择非常重要,要求所选溶剂对目标化合物的溶解度较大,且不与目标物发生反应,常用的萃取剂有乙醚、叔丁基甲基醚、乙酸乙酯、正己烷等有机溶剂,以及它们的混合溶剂<sup>[32-33]</sup>。

采用 LC-MS/MS 法检测类固醇激素含量时,朱宇清等<sup>[34]</sup>和马晓斐等<sup>[35]</sup>均选择叔丁基甲基醚作为提取剂考察血清中皮质激素的提取效果,方法回收率分别为 84.5%~90.4%和 86.6%~

102.7%; Schofield 等<sup>[36]</sup>采用 LC-MS/MS 法测定血清中雌二醇和睾酮,使用正己烷和乙酸乙酯混合溶液作为萃取剂进行样品前处理,2 种分析物的日内和日间精密度均小于 7.0%,且回收率在 97.5%~107.3%之间,具有较高的灵敏度,适用于临床上对人体性激素的测定; Keski-Rahkonen 等<sup>[37]</sup>使用 2-甲基丁烷、二乙醚、正己烷和叔丁基甲醚进行 LLE 实验,对比不同提取溶剂对雄激素和孕激素的提取效率,结果表明,叔丁基甲醚作为提取剂对所有类固醇激素均能产生最佳的萃取回收率,为 103.0%~113.0%,二乙醚对孕烯醇酮、孕酮和 17-羟基孕酮的提取效率均低于 87.5%,而孕酮分别用正己烷和 2-甲基丁烷萃取后的提取效率小于 80.0%<sup>[32]</sup>。LLE 具有回收率高、基质效应小等优点,但萃取后容易产生乳化现象,使水相与有机相界面分层模糊,导致方法的回收率和重复性较差,不利于自动操作。

### 1.3 固相萃取

SPE 是 20 世纪后期发展起来的一项分离技术,利用填充吸附材料将液体样品中的目标化合物吸附,与样品的基体和干扰化合物分离,再用洗脱液洗脱,以达到分离和富集的目的,其适用于提取各种极性化合物<sup>[38-39]</sup>。固相萃取柱的填料主要有离子交换、正相和反相等吸附材料,其中,对于血清基质中的类固醇激素常用反相萃取柱以达到良好的分离效果<sup>[28]</sup>。

Fanelli 等<sup>[40]</sup>采用叔丁基甲基醚结合 C18 固相萃取柱的前处理方法,应用质谱法准确定量分析脱氧皮质酮、皮质醇等 9 种类固醇激素,开发并验证了同位素稀释液相色谱-串联质谱法,并将其与常规免疫测定法进行比较,建立了 416 名健康人群类固醇激素的参考范围。在线固相萃取可以减少样品量,提高样品回收率和处理通量<sup>[41]</sup>,能够实现一部分的样品前处理自动化,且处理后的样品基质效应小,但对检测设备的要求较高。Li 等<sup>[42]</sup>将在线固相萃取与高分辨质谱检测器耦合同时测定血清中 18 种糖皮质激素,先用乙腈作为血清样品的萃取剂,然后选择乙酸铵作为负载溶剂,在合成的整体柱上实现在线 SPE,测得的精密度小于 12.1%,回收率在 71.9%~89.2%之间,该方法可用于

临床手术前后类固醇激素含量的监测。目前,常用的固体吸附剂有有机聚合物、键合硅胶类、键合氧化物硅胶等,其中,Oasis HLB 有机聚合物固相萃取柱在类固醇激素检测中的应用最广泛,回收率可达 67.0%~109.0%<sup>[7]</sup>。近年来,固相微萃取 (SPME) 技术蓬勃发展,与传统的样品前处理相比,SPME 集采样、萃取、浓缩、进样于一体,缩短了分析检测时间,其在测定人体类固醇激素方面的应用逐渐增多<sup>[43]</sup>。SPME 技术对受试者的损伤和生物体取血量较少,但因为该技术的选择性差,且涂层纤维价格昂贵<sup>[7]</sup>,目前没有得到广泛应用。总之,与 PPT 相比,SPE 的步骤复杂;与 LLE 相比,SPE 有着更广泛的适用性。由于色谱柱成本昂贵,所以选择 PPT 时要综合考虑经济和时间因素<sup>[26]</sup>。虽然 SPE 能够提供高回收率和良好的色谱峰,但所需时间较长、步骤较多,是半自动的,有时还需要使用强酸或强碱洗脱高极性分析物以获得高回收率,不适用于质谱等检测器系统。

### 1.4 多种前处理方法相结合

类固醇激素及其代谢物是一类复杂的内源性物质,不同激素的化学性质和极性差别较大<sup>[44-45]</sup>。为了降低基质效应、提高灵敏度,前处理阶段将 PPT、LLE 和 SPE 结合使用非常适合临床复杂样本的检测<sup>[46]</sup>。

Broccardo 等<sup>[47]</sup>采用甲醇沉淀蛋白结合 SPE 技术处理血清样品,利用新型微流体色谱装置结合 LC-MS/MS 定量分析人血清中睾酮、二氢睾酮、孕酮、皮质醇和可的松等 5 种类固醇激素,方法的绝对回收率大于 60.0%,减弱了基质效应; Taylor 等<sup>[48]</sup>通过乙腈蛋白沉淀后,用乙酸乙酯作为萃取剂,采用 LC-MS/MS 法分析血清中皮质醇、可的松、11-脱氧皮质酮等 13 种类固醇激素,绝对提取回收率为 50.0%,评估内标校正后的相对提取回收率在 90.0%~110.0%之间,具有较好的激素萃取效率; Caron 等<sup>[49]</sup>采用 LLE、衍生化和 SPE 相结合的方法,并利用 GC-MS/MS 法同时定量分析孕激素、脱氢表雄酮等 10 种内源性类固醇,不仅重现性较好,而且能够在有限体积的血清中同时测定 10 种类固醇,有助于保存现有生物库中的重要临床样本。通过将不同的前处理方

法相结合,彼此互补,最大程度地去除基质效应,适用于样品数量较少的情况。

### 1.5 化学衍生法

类固醇激素结构的特异性导致其电离效率和检测灵敏度降低。化学衍生法是在分析物上加入易电离基团,使更多的分析物带上电荷而进入质谱,提高了离子化效率,可获得更高的特异性和更好的灵敏度<sup>[26]</sup>。常用丹磺酰氯衍生雌激素<sup>[50]</sup>,用吡啶酸衍生雄激素<sup>[51]</sup>,采用LC-MS/MS分析衍生化后的雌激素和雄激素,其检测限均可达到10 ng/L以下。羟胺溶液是唯一能同时衍生化皮质激素、雌激素、雄激素和孕激素的衍生化试剂<sup>[52]</sup>,尽管会出现同分异构体干扰、灵敏度降低等情况<sup>[53]</sup>,但其可用于类固醇激素的高通量检测,且比非衍生化灵敏度更高。Keski-Rahkonen等<sup>[51]</sup>将150  $\mu$ L血清样品经LLE后,以盐酸羟胺溶液作为衍生化试剂,7种类固醇激素的选择性和灵敏度均显著提高。此外,还有烷基化、硅烷化、2-胍基吡啶化等衍生化试剂,通过对生物样本进行衍生化后再用LC-MS/MS检测,其检测限可达10 ng/L。

### 1.6 基于新型材料的前处理方法

近年来,新型材料成功应用于人体内代谢物质、神经递质、癌症和药物的检测,各种材料吸附剂已被用于提取类固醇激素,包括分子印迹聚合物(MIP)<sup>[54]</sup>、二氧化硅<sup>[55]</sup>、多壁碳纳米管(MWCNTs)<sup>[56]</sup>和金属有机框架(MOFs)<sup>[57]</sup>

等。其中,MOFs是由金属离子和有机配体配位构成的一类晶体多孔材料,示于图3<sup>[58]</sup>。MOFs具有金属活性、官能团选择性以及特殊的配位空间结构,其形成的特定框架结构为MOF材料的广泛应用提供了基础条件。与传统的多孔材料相比,MOFs具有比表面积大、孔径可调和表面易功能化等优点,因此,MOFs及其复合材料在气体吸附、储存与分离、催化、生物医学成像、生物传感、药物递送等方面拥有广阔的应用前景<sup>[59]</sup>。Tan等<sup>[59]</sup>建立了超声辅助乳化微萃取与涡流辅助微固相萃取相结合的提取工艺,用MIL-101(Cr)型多孔MOFs作为吸附剂,采用LC-MS/MS法检测真实环境水样中的雌酮,相对回收率在85.4%~120.8%之间。Lu等<sup>[60]</sup>原位合成了三维介孔石墨烯(3D-MG)和锆基MOFs的复合材料MG@UiO-66,在表面辅助激光解吸/电离飞行时间质谱(SALDI-TOF MS)中作为吸附剂和基质,3种类固醇激素的检测限和定量限分别为3~15和10~20 nmol/L,回收率在79.3%~97.2%之间。Zhang等<sup>[61]</sup>合成了纳米乙二醇功能化铬基金属有机骨架(MIL-101-ED),并将其用于血清样品中蛋白质的一步去除和抗精神病药物的提取,与传统提取方法相比,MIL-101-ED预处理步骤具有操作简便的优点。MOFs已在体内代谢、药毒物检测等关键领域崭露头角,未来新型材料的发展也会与类固醇激素的检测融合得越来越紧密。

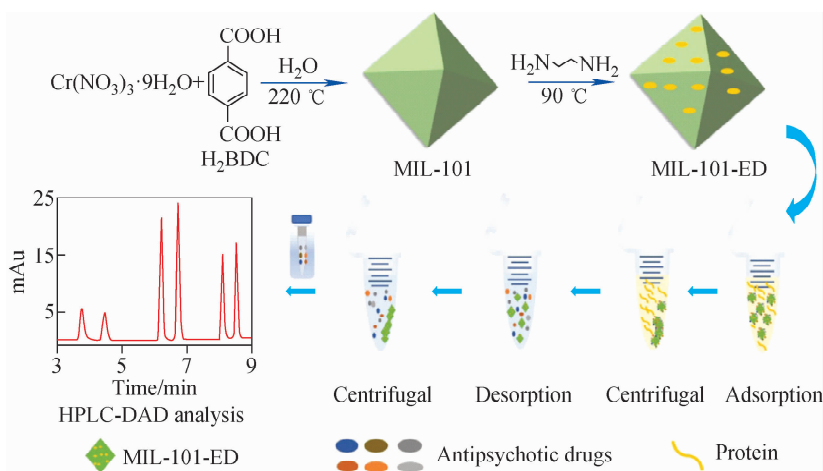


图3 MIL-101-ED和D- $\mu$ SPE的制备<sup>[58]</sup>

Fig. 3 Preparation of MIL-101-ED and D- $\mu$ SPE<sup>[58]</sup>

## 2 LC-MS/MS 应用于类固醇激素的检测

质谱技术高准确度、高灵敏度、高通量地定量分析类固醇的优势已使其逐渐代替传统的免疫法,越来越广泛地用于临床检测中,为疾病诊断提供参考。质谱检测方法主要包括 GC-MS/MS 和 LC-MS/MS,其中,LC-MS/MS 用于类固醇激素检测时通常不需要衍生化,可以缩短前处理时间、减少样品损耗<sup>[32]</sup>。Koal 等<sup>[52]</sup>以试剂盒形式评估了一种新标准化的 LC-MS/MS 法,可用于常规测定人类血清样本中 16 种类固醇激素,其定量分析类固醇激素的准确度在 88.3%~115.5% 之间,定量限为 0.01~32  $\mu\text{g/L}$ ,证明了该方法在临床诊断中分析综合类固醇激素的潜力。与高效液相色谱(HPLC)相比,超高效液相色谱(UPLC)适用于粒径小于 2  $\mu\text{m}$  的填料,可以提高耐压能力、增加柱效,使样本在高流速、短时间内被完全分析<sup>[32]</sup>,UPLC 的分离度和分析速度分别是 HPLC 的 1.7 和 8 倍,在高通量分析和复杂基质分析方面,UPLC-MS/MS 比 HPLC-MS/MS 更具优势<sup>[62]</sup>。近年来,基于 LC-MS/MS 测定类固醇激素的方法列于表 1。

### 2.1 色谱条件

色谱条件优化最重要的是色谱柱和流动相的选择。大多数方法利用 C8 和 C18 键合硅胶反相色谱柱实现了类固醇激素的完全分离。Marcos 等<sup>[63]</sup>开发并验证了基于 LC-MS/MS 定量分析 67 种内源性类固醇激素的方法,大多数类固醇能够显著分开,且回收率高于 80.0%;在 3 个浓度水平下评估的日内精密度均小于 20.0%,并且多数分析物的基质效应较小,证实了该方法和色谱柱的适用性。临床检测往往需要分离一些同分异构体,普通色谱柱无法达到完全分离的目的,因此,Hypercarb 色谱柱、Zorbax-SB Phenyl 色谱柱和 Eurokat 聚合物色谱柱等得到更多应用。这些色谱柱具有较宽的 pH 值耐受范围和稳定的机械性能,可用于分离极性化合物、同分异构体、糖类。Ionita 等<sup>[23]</sup>使用 Zorbax-SB Phenyl 色谱柱成功分离 1 对同分异构体。此外,最新发展的 UPLC 采用 2  $\mu\text{m}$  小粒径填料提高耐压能力并增加柱效,有利于提高待测物色谱峰分辨率和灵敏度<sup>[64]</sup>。

临床分析工作中,通常通过改变流动相的

组成提高色谱柱选择性,流动相分为水相和有机相,水相通常使用水,有机相常选择甲醇或乙腈。甲醇作为质子型溶剂,能够促进 $[M+H]^+$ 离子的形成,然而,当其与水混合时,粘度增大,导致较高的柱压<sup>[65]</sup>。自 UPLC 问世以来,使用亚 2  $\mu\text{m}$  颗粒柱已成为一种趋势,可以提高峰的分辨率<sup>[66]</sup>。然而,当受到较高的压力时,粒径小于 2  $\mu\text{m}$  的色谱柱容易迅速降解,可能导致色谱无法正常分离,通常需要使用低流速,从而导致分析时间延长。在这种情况下,可以用乙腈代替甲醇,乙腈与水混合后的粘度较低,产生的压力较低。然而,作为一种非质子溶剂,乙腈不能促进 $[M+H]^+$ 离子的形成,且价格通常高于甲醇<sup>[65]</sup>。此外,流动相添加剂(如甲酸、醋酸铵或氯化铵)的选择对色谱分离及灵敏度有较大影响,在正电离模式下,甲酸可以提供丰富的质子,有利于 $[M+H]^+$ 离子的形成;而对于非极性化合物(如雌二醇等),可以通过形成加合物(如氯化铵)或加入醋酸铵来增强电离<sup>[65]</sup>。

### 2.2 质谱条件

串联质谱在临床检测中占据主导地位,常用于类固醇激素分析的离子源包括电喷雾离子源(ESI)、大气压光化学电离离子源(APPI)和大气压化学电离离子源(APCI)等,其中 ESI 应用最广泛。在 ESI 中,柱洗脱液进入施加电压的不锈钢毛细管中,加热的气体(通常为氮气)沿着毛细管传递,雾化洗脱液并产生带电液滴。这些液滴经历库仑裂变,在进入质谱仪前通过解吸和解溶转化为稳定离子<sup>[65]</sup>。APCI 依靠加热的雾化气对柱洗脱液进行汽化,目标分析物随后被电晕放电针电离,然后产生稳定离子进入质谱仪。Ray 等<sup>[67]</sup>使用固相萃取进行样品纯化,并在 MS/MS 检测前使用 APCI 将分析物转化为离子,开发了一种同时测定皮质醇、可的松和地塞米松的高灵敏度方法。Taylor 等<sup>[68]</sup>提出,APCI 会导致标记内标的氢原子与水的氢原子之间发生交换,从而影响定量的准确性;Kushnir 等<sup>[69]</sup>认为,仪器的差异性影响了分析物的电离。APPI 是一种新方法,可作为 APCI 和 ESI 的补充,其使用紫外光照射柱洗脱液,非极性物质通过光化学作用完成质子转移和电荷交换,从而引发一连串反应,形成的稳

表 1 基于 LC-MS/MS 测定人体类固醇激素的方法  
Table 1 Determination methods of human steroid hormones based on LC-MS/MS

分析物 Analyte	样品基质 Sample matrix	样品前 处理方法 Pretreatment method	离子源 Ion source	色谱柱 Chromatographic column	流动相 Mobile phase	检测限 Limit of detection	线性范围 Linear range	参考文献 Reference
皮质醇、可的松、 脱氢皮质醇	血浆	蛋白沉淀	ESI <sup>+</sup>	Zorbax-SB Phenyl, Rapid Resolution HT 柱 (2.1 mm×100 mm)	乙腈-甲酸溶液	皮质醇 1 μg/L 可的松 2 μg/L 脱氢皮质醇 0.5 μg/L	0.5~20 μg/L	[23]
皮质醇	血清	蛋白沉淀	ESI Z spray ion	Phenomenex C8 Kinetex analytical (30 mm× 2.1 mm)	水(含 2 mmol/L 醋酸铵和 0.1% 甲酸)-甲醇(含 2 mmol/L 乙酸铵 和 0.1% 乙酸)溶液	5 μg/L	12.5~2 000 μg/L	[24]
睾酮、雌二醇	血清	液液萃取	ESI <sup>+</sup> /ESI <sup>-</sup>	C18 Reverse phase 柱	水(含氟化铵)- 乙腈溶液	睾酮 1 ng/dL 雌二醇 5 ng/L	睾酮 1~1 170 ng/dL 雌二醇 5~600 ng/L	[36]
17-羟基孕酮、脱氢表 雄酮、孕酮、17-羟基孕 烯醇酮、孕烯醇酮、 雄烯二酮和孕酮	血清	液液萃取	ESI <sup>+</sup>	Zorbax SB-C18 柱 (50 mm×92.1 mm× 1.8 μm)	水(含 0.025% 甲酸)- 甲醇(含 0.025% 甲酸)	0.032~0.34 μg/L	0.032~82 μg/L	[37]
皮质醇、睾酮、11-脱氧皮 质醇、脱氢表雄酮、雄烯 二酮、皮质醇、脱氧皮质 酮、17OH-孕酮和孕酮	血清	固相萃取	APCI <sup>+</sup>	Phenomenex RP-C8 (100 mm×4.6 mm× 5 μm)	20% 甲醇水-甲醇	0.0098~0.244 μg/L	0.01~500 μg/L	[40]



续表 1

分析物 Analyte	样品基质 Sample matrix	样品前 处理方法 Pretreatment method	离子源 Ion source	色谱柱 Chromatographic column	流动相 Mobile phase	检测限 Limit of detection	线性范围 Linear range	参考文献 Reference
18 种类固醇激素	血清	在线固相萃取	ESI <sup>+</sup>	Capcell Pak ADME 柱 (150 mm×2.1 mm× 4.6 μm)	水(含 0.1%甲酸)- 乙腈	0.1~0.6 μg/L	0.5~500 μg/L	[42]
睾酮、二氢睾酮、孕酮、 皮质醇和可的松	血清	蛋白沉淀 + 固相萃取	ESI <sup>+</sup>	Trizact nanotile packed with BEH C18 (150 μm×50 mm×1.7 μm)	水(含 0.1%甲酸)- 甲醇(0.1%甲酸)	0.03~0.57 μg/L	2~20 μg/L	[47]
13 种类固醇激素	血清	蛋白沉淀 + 液液萃取	APCI <sup>+</sup>	AccucoreTM Reversed-phase C18 柱 (100 mm×2.1 mm×2.6 μm)	水(含 0.1%甲酸)- 甲醇(0.1%甲酸)	0.05~12.9 μg/L	0~1 000 μg/L	[48]
67 种类固醇激素	尿液	液液萃取	ESI <sup>+</sup>	Acquity BEH C18 柱(100 mm× 2.1 mm×1.7 μm)	水(含 0.01%甲酸和 1 mmol/L 甲酸铵)- 甲醇(0.01%甲酸和 1 mmol/L 甲酸铵)	0.1~10 μg/L	0.5~5 000 μg/L	[63]
皮质醇、可的松和 地塞米松	血清	固相萃取	APCI <sup>+</sup>	Restek 柱(100 mm×3.2 mm) Ultra II® Aromax 柱	水(含 10 mmol/L 甲酸)-乙腈(含 10 mmol/L 甲酸)	0.7~1.2 nmol/L	10~200 μg/L	[67]

定离子被导入质谱仪<sup>[65]</sup>。ESI、APCI 和 APPI 通过选择性电离减少了基质效应和检测过程中的不确定性<sup>[70]</sup>。在实际样本的检测过程中,由于有机盐、无机盐、糖等化合物会与分析物在离子化时发生竞争,导致目标物响应值不准确,进而影响方法的灵敏度和特异性<sup>[71]</sup>。

通常使用同位素内标法校正实验过程中的基质效应和样品损失。对于复杂的类固醇类物质检测,通常添加待测物的氘代同位素内标,由于其化学性质、存在环境和目标物类似,能够同步抵消实验过程中产生的损失,校正样品和检测过程中的不确定性,确保 LC-MS/MS 定量结果的高准确度和高稳定性<sup>[72]</sup>。

### 2.3 新质谱技术的发展

在 LC-MS/MS 临床应用中,常用串联三重四极杆(QQQ)质谱仪、离子阱质谱仪、高分辨质谱仪等。其中,QQQ 质谱仪灵敏度高、重现性好,是人体内源性物质定量测定的首选仪器<sup>[32]</sup>;离子阱质谱仪具有仪器简单、灵敏度高等优点,可用于测量复杂样品中的小分子疾病标志物<sup>[74-75]</sup>。近年来,高分辨质谱仪蓬勃发展,如轨道阱质量分析器(Orbitrap)、磁质谱质量分析器、飞行时间质谱仪、傅里叶变换离子回旋共振质量分析器等,结合质谱数据库,可实现对整个类固醇激素代谢通路的分析。Q Exactive™ 是 ThermoFisher Scientific 发布的基于 Orbitrap 技术的液相色谱-质谱仪,能够达到  $10^{-7}$  级质量精度和 10 000 半峰高处的全峰宽以上的超高分辨率,具有超高分辨率、超高质量精度以及高定量能力,但仪器价格昂贵,且定量灵敏度逊于三重四极杆,目前在临床上的应用较少<sup>[65-66]</sup>。如果将高分辨质谱与三重四极杆相结合,可以提高高分辨质谱的定量灵敏度,有望应用于临床上内源性激素的分析。

### 3 总结与展望

类固醇激素在调节机体代谢、促进性器官发育等方面起着重要作用,因此,测量人体多种类固醇激素在临床上具有重要意义。本文概括了样本前处理技术 PPT、LLE 和 SPE 的优缺点,探讨了多种前处理方法相结合的优势,同时介绍了新型材料,希望为临床检测提供参考。此外,与免疫分析法和 GC-MS/MS 法相比,LC-

MS/MS 法因具有高灵敏度和高特异性已成为临床上测定复杂基质中类固醇激素水平的金标准,在今后的检测工作中,离子源及质量分析器的选择,液质仪器硬件的发展是 LC-MS/MS 实现高通量和高灵敏度的关键,也是 LC-MS/MS 技术开发的重点和难点。未来,随着仪器性能的优化和检测精度的提高,LC-MS/MS 将会广泛应用于临床检测中。

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