

A型口蹄疫合成肽疫苗的免疫效力评价

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摘要: 【目的】研制 A 型口蹄疫 (foot-and-mouth disease, FMD) 新型合成肽疫苗, 为畜牧业减少经济损失。【方法】应用两种含有口蹄疫病毒 (foot-and-mouth disease virus, FMDV) AF/72 株 VP1 [131-159]、VP4 [20-35]、3A [21-35] 和 3B [29-42] 4 个抗原表位的合成肽联合 CpG 寡聚脱氧核苷酸 (5'-TCGCGAACGTTCGCCCCG ATCGTCGGTA-3') 在豚鼠上进行了免疫效力评价。【结果】2.5 μg/只的合成肽 364 能保护 4/5 的豚鼠免受 FMDV AF/72 株的攻击, 灭活苗组获得完全保护, 其他组的保护效力仅为 3/5; 保护效力最高的两组的外周血 CD4⁺ T 淋巴细胞含量高达 33.7% 和 36.6%, 而其他组不超过 27.7%, PBS 组仅为 18.1%。【结论】本研究筛选出一组免疫效力较好的口蹄疫 A 型合成肽疫苗, 可以作为候选疫苗进行进一步评价。

关键词: 口蹄疫病毒, 合成肽, 体液免疫, 细胞免疫, CpG 寡聚脱氧核苷酸, CD4⁺ T 淋巴细胞

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口蹄疫 (foot-and-mouth disease, FMD) 是由口蹄疫病毒 (foot-and-mouth disease virus, FMDV) 引起的感染偶蹄类动物的一种急性、热性、高度接触性传染病。目前该病可能是限制畜牧及畜产品交易最重要的动物疾病^[1-3]。口蹄疫病毒属于小 RNA 病毒科口蹄疫病毒属, 含有 7 个血清型 (A、O、C、Asia 1、SAT 1、SAT 2 和 SAT 3), 其为单股正义 RNA 病毒, 基因组长约 8000 nt^[4]。目前还没有治疗口蹄疫的有效药物, 其危害性是显而易见的^[5-8]。虽然许多国家依靠扑杀来控制口蹄疫的爆发, 但是事实证明免疫是一种更可取的方法。不同的国家和地区在口蹄疫流行的不同阶段应用的疫苗种类不同。当前, 常用口蹄疫疫苗主要有常规疫苗和新型疫苗 2 种,

常规疫苗包括弱毒疫苗、灭活疫苗, 新型疫苗包括基因工程活载体疫苗、基因工程亚单位疫苗、核酸疫苗等多种类型^[9]。口蹄疫灭活疫苗和弱毒疫苗在口蹄疫防治中发挥了巨大作用但是由于灭活不彻底及弱毒苗毒力返强可能导致病毒外泄, 研究者一直在寻找一种更为安全有效的新型口蹄疫疫苗^[10]。

合成肽疫苗是依据天然蛋白质氨基酸序列一级结构用化学方法人工合成包含抗原决定簇的小肽 (约 20-40 个氨基酸), 这种疫苗不存在毒力回升或灭活不全的问题^[11]。合成肽疫苗的研究最早始于 FMDV 合成肽疫苗。20 世纪 80 年代, Francis 和 Dimarch 就开始对口蹄疫合成肽疫苗的研究^[11]。目前, 国内已经有相关 FMD 合成肽疫苗投入生产。合

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成肽疫苗中, 抗原表位可以连接到大的蛋白载体比如钥孔血蓝蛋白、牛血清白蛋白, IgG 重链等以增强免疫原性。此外还可以通过增加抗原表位的数量来提高其免疫原性, 比如抗原表位的串联和重复排列, 利用赖氨酸含有的两个氨基为碳端合成以赖氨酸为核心含有两个抗原肽以上的树状多抗原肽抗原(multi-antigen peptide, MAP)^[11]。研究发现, 在抗口蹄疫病毒感染过程中, 高浓度的中和抗体水平是必须的^[12], 然而口蹄疫病毒抗体的产生是T细胞依赖性的^[11], 因此在设计合成肽时必须同时考虑B表位和T表位^[13]。口蹄疫病毒抗原表位(包括TH、TC和B表位)的发现极大地推动了口蹄疫新型合成肽疫苗的研究^[11]。

已证实3A[21–35]是口蹄疫病毒3A非结构蛋白上的一个T表位, 当它和VP1[137–156]串联能有效诱导针对口蹄疫病毒的体液免疫和细胞免疫^[14]。3B[29–42]在牛体内能有效刺激机体产生口蹄疫病毒特异性中和抗体, 其被证实含有QKPLK基序^[15]。VP4[20–35]是一个强有力的T表位^[16–17], 当它和VP1[137–156]串联, 能够提高VP1[137–156]的免疫原性^[18–19]。VP1[134–158]被证实是一个重要的B表位^[20–21]。实验证明VP1[135–160]不仅含有B表位还含有T表位, 进一步实验将该B表位和T表位缩小到VP1[135–144], 然而仅有VP1[135–144]并不能激发抗口蹄疫病毒感染反应^[22]。VP1[129–169]和TAKSKKFPSYTATYQF结合能有效保护猪免受同源口蹄疫病毒的感染, 其保护率高达95.2%^[23]。VP1[140–160]已经被广泛地应用到合成肽疫苗中^[24]。本研究应用的VP1[131–159]序列包含了整个G–H区。

富含未甲基化CG的寡核苷酸(CpG ODN)在近些年被广泛研究。研究证明CpG ODN是一种强有力的佐剂^[25–27]。本研究应用的CpG ODN为5'-TCGCGAACGTTGCCCGATCGTCGGTA-3'^[25]。

本试验人工化学合成了含有口蹄疫病毒AF/72株VP1[131–159]、VP4[20–35]、3A[21–35]和3B[29–42]的树状多抗原肽抗原以及串联抗原肽抗原, 并对这两种合成肽进行了免疫效力评价。以期研制出安全有效的新型口蹄疫疫苗, 为畜牧业减少经济损失。

1 材料和方法

1.1 材料

1.1.1 病毒、细胞和动物: 口蹄疫病毒AF/72株由本实验室分离、鉴定和保存。BHK-21细胞用于扩增口蹄疫病毒以及测定血清中和活性。口蹄疫病毒阴性的雌性豚鼠(体重200–400克)由兰州兽医研究所动物中心提供。

1.1.2 主要试剂和仪器: A型口蹄疫病毒灭活抗原(由兰州兽医研究所马军武研究员实验室提供);淋巴细胞分离液(Beijing Solarbio Science & Technology Co., Ltd.); Hank's Balanced Salt Mixture(Beijing Solarbio Science & Technology Co., Ltd.); CFSE(Beijing RuiTaibio Science & Technology Limited company); 小鼠抗豚鼠的CD8-FITC和CD4-RPE单克隆抗体(Morpho Sys UK Ltd t/a AbD Serotec); 流式细胞仪(FACSAria三激光9色分选仪, 美国, BD公司)。

1.2 合成肽以及CpG ODN

本试验应用的两种多肽(编号364、365, 图1)以及CpG ODN分别由ChinaPeptides Co., Ltd和Ltd and Shanghai Sangon Biotech Co., Ltd合成。经RP-HPLC测得多肽浓度在95%以上。

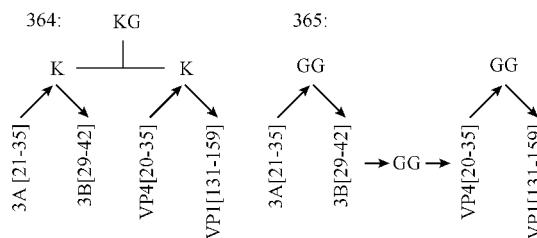


图1. 合成肽的结构

Figure 1. The structure of synthetic peptide studied in this research. Peptide 364 is a dendritic multiple antigenic peptide, whereas peptide 365 is a tandem multiple antigenic peptide.

1.3 疫苗和免疫

合成肽和CpG ODN由PBS稀释到指定浓度, 然后加等体积的ISA206佐剂研磨成疫苗。灭活苗由中农威特生物科技股份有限公司提供。48只雌性豚鼠随机分成8组, 每组6只。所有的豚鼠在0 d和21 d于后腿肌肉内侧接种疫苗。详细的免疫程序见表1。在0 d、7 d、14 d、21 d、28 d、35 d和41 d收集血清, 然后应用病毒中和试验检测其中和抗体,

血清学试验之前, 血清于 56℃ 下灭活 45 min, 然后保

存于 -20℃ 备用。

表 1. 豚鼠免疫程序

Table 1. The immunization procedure of guinea pigs

Group ID	Vaccine formulations per guinea pig	Dosage per animal/ μL
364 - 100	100 μg peptide 364 + 5 μg CpGODN + ISA 206	200
364 - 25	25 μg peptide 364 + 5 μg CpGODN + ISA 206	200
364 - 2.5	2.5 μg peptide 364 + 5 μg CpG ODN + ISA 206	200
365 - 100	100 μg peptide 365 + 5 μg CpGODN + ISA 206	200
365 - 25	25 μg peptide 365 + 5 μg CpGODN + ISA 206	200
365 - 2.5	2.5 μg peptide 365 + 5 μg CpG ODN + ISA 206	200
Positive	commercially inactivated vaccine	200
PBS	PBS + ISA 206 + 5 μg CpGODN	200

The peptides and CpG ODN were diluted by phosphate-buffered saline (PBS) to corresponding concentration and then emulsified with an equal volume of Montanide ISA 206 (Seppic). The inactivated vaccine was provided by CHINA AGRICULTURAL VET. BIO. SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY CO. LTD.

1.4 豚鼠血清抗口蹄疫病毒 IgG 检测

用间接 ELISA 方法检测豚鼠血清抗口蹄疫病毒 IgG。大致试验方法如下:用包被液 1:8 稀释 A 型口蹄疫病毒灭活抗原(由兰州兽医研究所马军武研究员实验室提供)包被 96 孔板, 100 μL/孔, 4℃ 过夜。用 200 μL/孔含 1% BSA 的 PBS 封闭该板, 37℃, 1 h。然后 100 μL/孔 1:1000 稀释的兔抗豚鼠酶结合物, 37℃, 1 h。洗板 3 次后每孔加 50 μL OPD/H₂O₂, 37℃, 避光孵育 15 min 后用 50 μL/孔的终止液终止反应, 在 OD492 下读取数值。结果表示为平均 OD 值 ± 标准差。

1.5 微量中和实验

在 96 孔细胞培养板进行豚鼠血清病毒中和活性的测量^[28]。方法大致为:将 50 μL 两倍连续稀释的 56℃ 灭活 45 min 的豚鼠血清与等体积 100 TCID₅₀ 的 FMDVAF/72 株在 37℃ 下反应 1 h。然后, 取上述 50 μL 血清病毒混合液加到 100 μL 的 BHK-21 细胞悬液里 (1.5×10^6 /mL)。将该细胞板置于细胞培养箱在 37℃, 5% CO₂ 条件下培养 3 天。而后观察结果。中和滴度表示为能中和一半 100 TCID₅₀ 的 AF/72 的血清稀释度的倒数^[28]。

1.6 外周血单核细胞以及脾脏淋巴细胞的分离

豚鼠外周血单核细胞 (35 d) 以及脾脏淋巴细胞 (28 d) 分别用淋巴细胞分离液 (Beijing Solarbio Science & Technology Co. Ltd.) 从 EDTA 二钠抗凝的外周血和无菌研磨的脾脏组织中提取。步骤大致为:抗凝的外周血和无菌研磨的脾脏组织与等体积的 Hank's Balanced Salt Mixture (Beijing Solarbio Science & Technology Co. Ltd.) 混合, 将其小心加在等体积的豚鼠淋巴细胞分离液上面, 2000 × g 离心 15 min。将分界面上面的一层白色悬浮液转移到 1

个新的离心管中, 用 Hank's Balanced Salt Mixture 洗涤两次, 每次 1500 × g 离心 10 min。

1.7 脾脏淋巴细胞增殖试验

脾脏淋巴细胞的增殖能力用基于羧基荧光素二醋酸盐琥珀酰亚胺酯 (CFSE) 的方法测得^[29]。大致方法如下:用含 0.1% 牛血清白蛋白 PBS 稀释的 CFSE (Beijing RuiTaibio Science & Technology Limited company) 标记分离的脾脏淋巴细胞悬液 (1×10^7 cells/mL), 终浓度为 50 μmol/L, 37℃, 5% CO₂ 条件下孵育 15 min, 每隔 5 min 混匀 1 次。等体积胎牛血清终止标记后, 用含 3% 胎牛血清的 PBS 洗涤细胞 3 次。然后用 RPMI 1640 完全营养液 (RPMI1640, 1.5×10^{-2} mol/L HEPES, 100 U/mL 青霉素, 100 μg/mL 链霉素, 5×10^{-2} mol/L β 琥珀酰亚胺酯, 10% 胎牛血清) 悬浮细胞, 细胞浓度为 5×10^6 cells/mL。用 24 孔细胞培养板培养细胞, 每孔 1 mL。实验组用终浓度 10 μg/mL 的 A 型口蹄疫病毒灭活抗原刺激, 阳性对照组用终浓度 2.5 μg/mL 的刀豆蛋白刺激, 阴性对照用与前面刺激物等体积的 RPMI 1640 营养液刺激。37℃, 5% CO₂ 条件下孵育 5 d 后上流式细胞仪 (FACSAria 三激光 9 色分选仪, 美国, BD 公司) 检测。由于本所得流式细胞仪没有 CFSE 的信号, 我们先去与其相当接近的 FITC 信号进行检测。

1.8 外周血 CD4⁺ 和 CD8⁺ T 淋巴细胞亚群分类

本研究豚鼠外周血 CD4⁺ 和 CD8⁺ T 淋巴细胞亚群分类选取的抗体为小鼠抗豚鼠的 CD8-FITC 和 CD4-RPE 单克隆抗体 (Morpho Sys UK Ltd t/a AbD Serotec)。根据生产商的说明书, 10 μL 的单克隆抗体用来标记 100 μL 外周血淋巴细胞 (含 10^6 个), 室温避光孵育 15–30 min。然后用 2 mL PBS 洗涤细胞两次, 每次 1500 × g 离心 5 min, 最后用 150 μL

PBS 重悬细胞, 1 h 内上流式细胞仪检测。

1.9 攻毒

二免后第 14 天, 用 0.2 mL 100 ID₅₀ 的 FMDV AF/72 株经豚鼠后腿皮下和皮内进行攻毒。连续观察 7 d。没有水泡或者只在攻毒部位有口蹄疫水泡的豚鼠(原发感染)视为保护, 在除了攻毒部位的其他 3 条腿有水泡的豚鼠(继发感染)视为不受保护^[30]。

1.10 统计学分析

本文应用 SPSS 13.0 对试验数据进行统计学分析, $p < 0.05$ 为差异显著。结果分析图由 OriginPro

8.5.1 软件进行绘制。

2 结果

2.1 口蹄疫特异性 IgG 水平

本研究应用间接 ELISA 检测了免疫 0 d、7 d、14 d、21 d、28 d、35 d 和 41 d 豚鼠的血清口蹄疫特异性 IgG 水平(图 2)。最高抗体水平出现在灭活苗免疫组的第 35 天。总体水平来看, 所有合成肽免疫组豚鼠血清抗体水平峰值出现在免疫后第 21 和 41 天($P < 0.05$)。

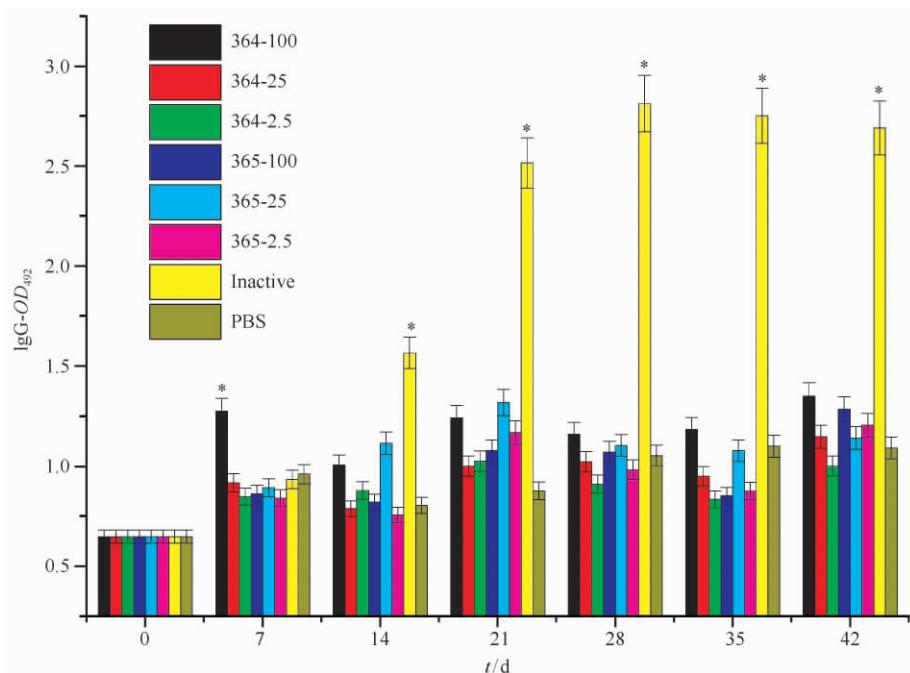


图 2. 口蹄疫特异性 IgG 水平

Figure 2. Serum specific IgG levels in immunized guinea pigs. Serum IgG antibodies in guinea pigs were detected by indirect enzyme-linked immunosorbent assay. * stands for significant differences ($p < 0.05$) .

2.2 中和抗体水平

所有接种疫苗的豚鼠, 其血清病毒中和能力得到了检测(表 2)。最高的中和滴度出现在灭活苗

组, 其次是合成肽疫苗 364 - 2.5 组。所有组豚鼠血清的病毒中和能力在加强免疫后第 14 天最强, 其次是初免后 14 d。

表 2. 豚鼠血清中和抗体滴度

Table 2. Serum neutralizing antibody titers in immunized guinea pigs

Time	Guinea pig serum neutralizing antibody titer							
	365 - 100	365 - 25	365 - 2.5	364 - 100	364 - 25	364 - 2.5	Inactivated	PBS
0	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1	< 1
7 dpv (primary)	4	4	16	32	4	64	64	2
14 dpv (primary)	8	8	32	32	4	64	90	4
21 dpv (primary)	4	8	4	4	4	16	32	4
7 dpv (boosted)	8	16	16	16	16	64	90	8
14 dpv (boosted)	16	32	32	32	16	90	90	16

Neatralizing antibody determinations were performed in 96-wellculture microplates. The end-point titer was calculated as the reciprocal of the final serum dilution that neutralized 100 TCID₅₀ of virus in 50% of the wells. dpv: days post vaccination.

2.3 脾脏淋巴细胞增殖能力

脾脏淋巴细胞增殖能力用基于 CFSE 的流式细胞仪技术测得。细胞增殖代数越多，细胞平均荧光

强度就越弱。图中的每个荧光峰代表一个细胞分化群。脾脏淋巴细胞增殖能力的检测结果见图 3 和图 4。结果显示几乎所有受到刀豆蛋白和 A 型口蹄疫

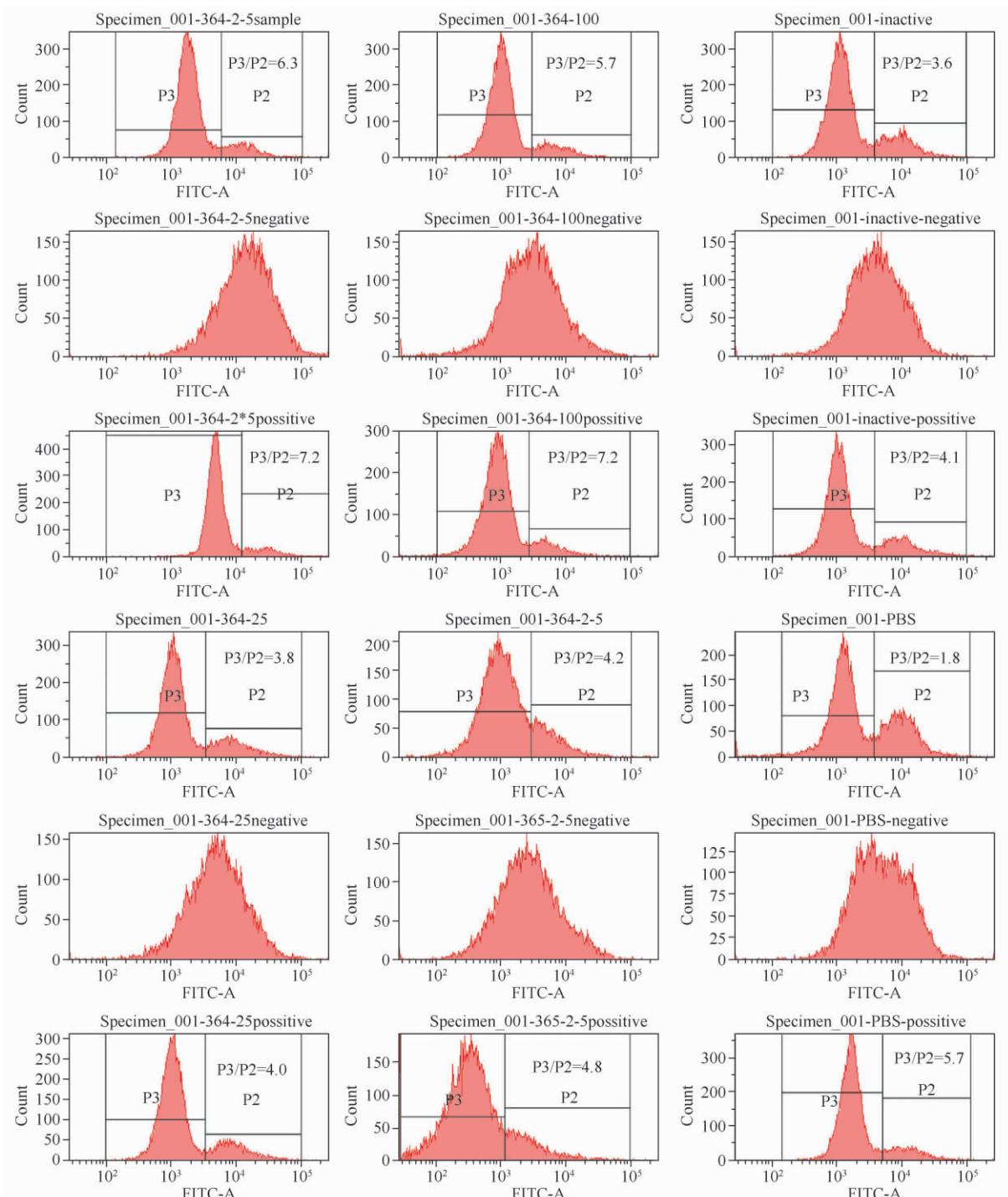


图 3. 脾脏淋巴细胞增殖试验结果

Figure 3. Assessment of splenic lymphocytes proliferative capacity (day 28 after priming). The splenic lymphocytes were labeled with carboxyfluorescein diacetate succinimidyl ester (CFSE) to study the proliferative capacity. Specimen_002 - 364 - 2* 5: Group ID 364 - 2.5. The rest may be deduced by analogy.

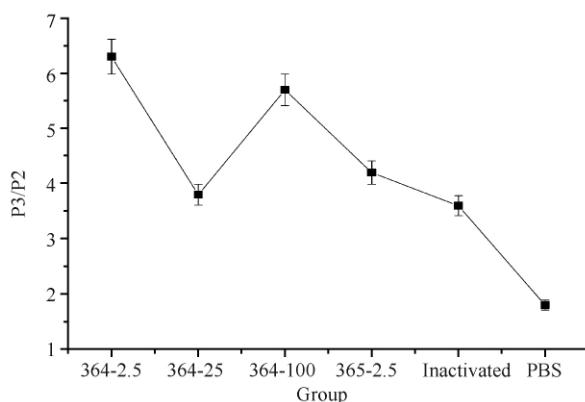


图 4. 脾脏淋巴细胞增殖能力

Figure 4. The proliferative capacity of splenic lymphocytes (day 28 after priming). P3/P2: the ratio between the percentage of proliferative splenic lymphocytes and undifferentiated splenic lymphocytes. The larger the ratio is, the stronger the proliferative capacity is.

灭活抗原刺激的豚鼠脾脏淋巴细胞都发生了增殖，

而阴性对照组的几乎没有发生增殖。图 4 显示了脾脏淋巴细胞增殖的 P3/P2 比值，该值越大说明脾脏淋巴细胞的增殖能力越强。结果表明，364 - 2.5 疫苗组的豚鼠脾脏淋巴细胞增殖最强，然而灭活苗组（除了 PBS 组）的脾脏淋巴细胞增殖最弱。

2.4 外周血 T 淋巴细胞 CD4⁺ - CD8⁺ 亚群分类

外周血 T 淋巴细胞 CD4⁺ 和 CD8⁺ 亚群分类见图 5 和图 6。结果表明，灭活苗组的豚鼠外周血 CD4⁺ T 淋巴细胞的比例最高，达 36.6%。其次是 364 - 2.5 组，达 33.7%。其他组最高的是 365 - 25 组，为 27.2%，最低的是 PBS 组，为 18.1%。CD8⁺ T 淋巴细胞在 364 - 100 组中最多，达 31.9%，其次是 PBS 组，达 28.5%，在 365 - 25 组中最少，为 18.6%，其余组都在 21% - 25% 范围之内。364 - 2.5 组、364 - 25 组、364 - 100 组、365 - 2.5 组、365 - 25 组、365 - 100 组、灭活苗组、PBS 组的 CD4/CD8 比值分别为 1.465、0.988、0.743、1.025、1.462、

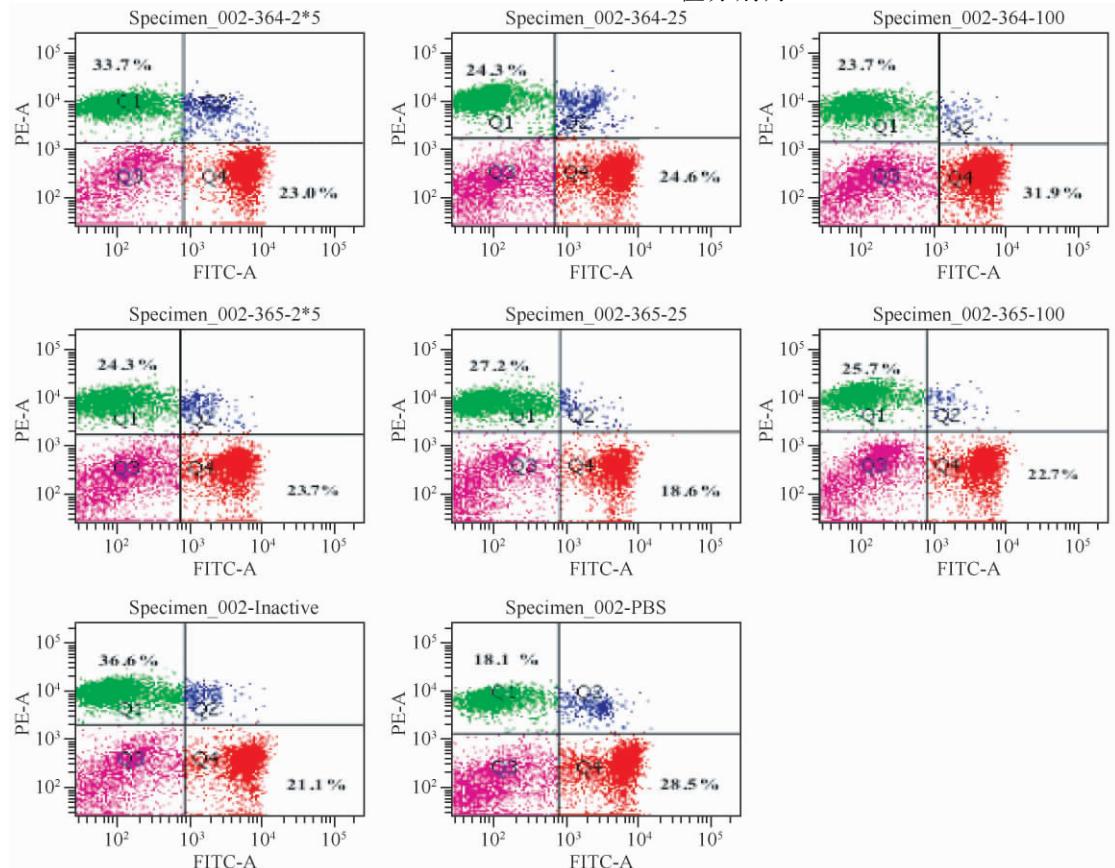
图 5. 外周血 T 淋巴细胞 CD4⁺ 和 CD8⁺ 亚群分类

Figure 5. Peripheral blood T lymphocytes CD4⁺ and CD8⁺ subsets distribution. At day 14 after boosting, mouse anti guinea pig CD8 and CD4 monoclonal antibodies were used to phenotype PBMC. Specimen_001 - 364 - 2 - 5 or Specimen_001 - 364 - 2* - 5: Group ID 364 - 2.5. Specimen_001 - 364 - 25: Group ID 364 - 25. The rest may be deduced by analogy.

1.132、1.735 和 0.63(图 6)。

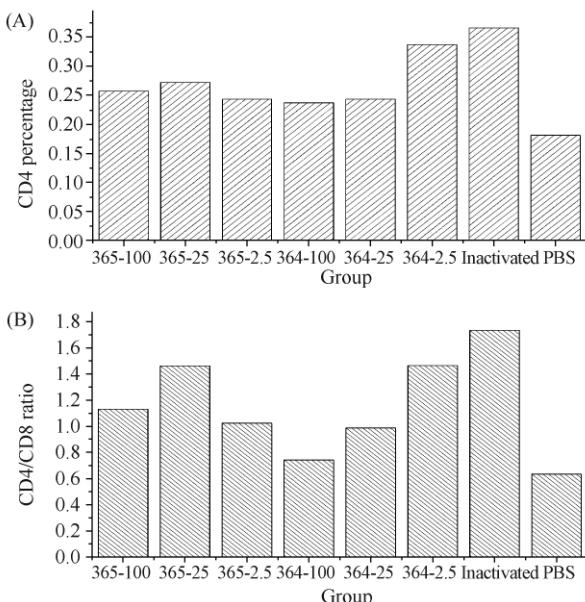


图 6. (A) 外周血 T 淋巴细胞中 CD4⁺ 细胞百分比; (B) CD4⁺ 细胞数与 CD8⁺ 细胞数的比值

Figure 6. (A) The percentage of CD4⁺ cells in peripheral blood T lymphocytes; (B) the ratio between CD4⁺ cells and CD8⁺ cells.

2.5 攻毒试验

第 35 天各个组豚鼠攻毒结果见表 3。结果表明,灭活苗的保护率为 100%,364-2.5 疫苗的保护率为 80%,其余组为 60%。

表 3. 攻毒实验结果

Table 3. Protection of guinea pigs ($n=5$) against homologous FMDV challenge

Group	Prim vesicles ^a	Sec vesicles ^b	Protection ratio
364 - 100	3	2	3/5
364 - 25	3	2	3/5
364 - 2.5	2	1	4/5
365 - 100	4	2	3/5
365 - 25	4	2	3/5
365 - 2.5	3	2	3/5
Inactivated	1	0	5/5
PBS	3	3	0/5

^a: primary vesicles. ^b: secondary vesicles. Animals that showed FMD-compatible lesions only at the original injection site (primary vesicles) were considered protected, and those that showed any FMD clinical signs in the other three feet (secondary vesicles) were judged to be unprotected.

3 讨论

合成肽疫苗最早应用于口蹄疫疫苗的研究。

Francis 等在 1985 年^[31],1987 年^[32],1991 年^[33]相继利用 FMDV VP1 141-160 进行口蹄疫合成肽疫苗的研究,并取得了可喜的研究成果。此外,其他学者也相继利用 FMDV VP1 141-160 以及其他口蹄疫病毒抗原表位进行了口蹄疫和合成肽疫苗的研究。例如, Brown^[34] 1988 年的 VP1 140-160 及 200-213; Doel^[35] 等 1990 年的 A、O、C 3 个血清型 FMDV 的 VP 141-158 和 200-213; Zamorano^[24] 等 1995 年的 FMDV O1 Campos VP1 135-160、1997 年的 FMDV O1 Campos VP1 135-144; Wang^[23] 等 2002 年的 VP1 129-169; Du^[36] 等 2008 年的 VP1 21-60、141-160、200-213。总之,口蹄疫合成肽疫苗的研究离不开口蹄疫病毒抗原表位的研究。一种有效的合成肽疫苗必须同时包含 B 表位和 T 表位。因而本实验设计的合成肽既含有口蹄疫病毒的 B 表位又含有 T 表位,既含有口蹄疫病毒结构蛋白上的抗原表位又含有口蹄疫病毒非结构蛋白上的抗原表位,以期扩大合成肽疫苗的免疫原性,研制出更加有效的口蹄疫合成肽疫苗。

试验证实,高强度的血清中和能力在抗口蹄疫病毒感染的过程中起重要作用^[9]。尽管体液免疫在抗口蹄疫病毒感染中起重要作用,但是细胞免疫也被证实在清理病毒方面发挥重要作用^[37]。本研究中,最强的血清中和能力出现在灭活疫苗组,其次是 364-2.5 组。这两组豚鼠保护率分别为 100% 和 80%,这都比其他组要高。364-2.5 组的脾脏淋巴细胞增殖最强。因而在本研究里,364-2.5 组的免疫效果比除了灭活疫苗组之外的其他组好。

有研究报道,血清 IgG 抗体水平与保护力无关^[38]。本研究中,虽然灭活苗组的 IgG 水平最高并且该组的中和抗体滴度和豚鼠保护率也最高,但是在合成肽疫苗组中并非 IgG 水平越高中和抗体滴度和豚鼠保护率就越高。这说明血清 IgG 与中和抗体滴度以及豚鼠保护率有关,但是并非简单的线性关系。而中和滴度和豚鼠保护率的关系才是线性关系。中和滴度越高豚鼠保护率就越高。有学者研究发现,虽然在攻毒之前没有检测到口蹄疫病毒特异性的抗体,但是却受到了保护^[39]。这可能与有效的细胞免疫作用有关。

尽管体液免疫在抗口蹄疫感染中占很重要的作用,但是研究发现在持续感染口蹄疫病毒的机体中细胞免疫对病毒的清除起重要作用^[40]。本研究中,

364-2.5组和灭活苗组的豚鼠血清中和抗体水平最高,同时它们的保护率也最高,这说明中和抗体与豚鼠的保护有关。抗口蹄疫病毒高水平中和抗体的产生与CD4⁺T淋巴细胞的帮助有关^[41]。本研究中,灭活苗组合364-2.5组的中和抗体滴度最高,同时它们的CD4⁺T淋巴细胞比率最高。细胞免疫被证明在抗病毒免疫中起重要作用^[41-42]。特异性T细胞介导的抗口蹄疫病毒反应在牛和猪中得到了证明^[43-44]。抗口蹄疫病毒的抗体反应是T细胞依赖的,并且受细胞因子的调节^[45]。T淋巴细胞对机体产生抗口蹄疫病毒免疫反应是很重要的^[46]。许多辅助功能和效应功能都是有T淋巴细胞介导的,比如,细胞杀伤活性,巨噬细胞的活化,免疫记忆^[47]。本研究中,虽然灭活苗组的中和抗体水平比364-2.5组的高,但是364-2.5组的脾脏淋巴细胞增殖能力比灭活苗组的强。所以体液免疫在抗口蹄疫病毒感染过程中其重要作用,但是细胞免疫也很重要。

CD4⁺T细胞和CD8⁺T细胞组成了大部分的αβT细胞,是T细胞介导的免疫反应的主要成分,前者是MHC-II限制性的,具有辅助性功能,后者是MHC I限制性的,具有直接杀伤靶细胞的功能^[48]。在牛和猪中发现CD4⁺T细胞与抗口蹄疫病毒感染有关^[49-50]。除此之外,研究还发现CD4⁺T与机体持续产生保护性抗体有关^[51]。本研究中,灭活苗组的豚鼠外周血CD4⁺T淋巴细胞的比例最高,达36.6%。其次是364-2.5组,达33.7%。其他组最高的是365-25组,为27.2%,最低的是PBS组,为18.1%。由于灭活苗组的中和抗体水平以及豚鼠保护率比364-2.5组的高,因此CD4⁺T淋巴细胞的刺激能力是一个评价口蹄疫疫苗好坏的重要指标。

CD8⁺和CD4⁺T淋巴细胞介导的T细胞反应对抗口蹄疫病毒感染很重要^[13],这在牛^[43]和猪^[44]体内已经被发现。因而,CD4/CD8比值被广泛用于评价机体的免疫系统状态^[52]。比如,在评估鸡新城疫病毒疫苗时,低CD4/CD8比值被认为与体液免疫力的下降有关。研究表明,CD8⁺T细胞与病毒的清理有关^[53]。然而,在本研究中,CD4⁺T细胞与抗口蹄疫病毒感染有关,CD8⁺T细胞却没有明显的联系。364-2.5组和灭活疫苗组的CD4/CD8比值最高,并且它们的血清中和能力以及保护率也是最强

的,然而365-25组CD4/CD8比值同样比较高,但是该组的中和能力以及保护率去不强。CD4/CD8比值高低与CD4和CD8都有关,前两者CD4很高,而后者CD8很低。因此,我们认为CD4/CD8比值虽然对评价机体的免疫系统状态很有用,但是其并不总是能精确地反应机体的免疫系统状态,在实际中我们还要结合机体的其他指标。

本研究中,合成肽疫苗组364-2.5的保护率以及中和抗体滴度要比其他合成肽疫苗组的保护率高。即2.5 μg的合成肽相比25 μg,100 μg能激发豚鼠产生更好的免疫力。在Wang等(2002)的研究中,在猪中,100 μg/0.5 mL/只、50 μg/0.5 mL/只、25 μg/0.5 mL/只、12.5 μg/0.5 mL/只的合成肽针对口蹄疫病毒的保护率分别是3/3、2/3、3/3,3/3^[26]。也就是说,50 μg的合成肽的保护率没有低剂量合成肽的保护效果好。这与本研究的结果完全一致。因此我们认为,高免疫剂量并不意味着好的免疫效果。在实际生产中,为了最大限度的利用疫苗,有必要研究免疫剂量。

总之,本研究筛选出一组免疫效力较好的口蹄疫A型合成肽疫苗(364),可以作为候选疫苗进行进一步评价。该合成肽的最佳免疫剂量是每只豚鼠2.5 μg。

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Evaluation of synthetic peptide vaccines against foot-and-mouth disease type A

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Abstract: [Objective] We developed a synthetic vaccine against foot-and-mouth disease type A. [Methods] We studied two peptide-based vaccines containing residues 131 to 159 of VP1, 20 to 35 of VP4, 21 to 35 of 3A and 29 to 42 of 3B of the AF/72 strain of foot-and-mouth disease virus (FMDV) coupled with a CpG oligodeoxynucleotide (5'-TCGGAACGTTGCCGATCGTCGGTA-3') in guinea pigs. We assayed the FMDV-specific IgG level, serum neutralizing antibody titer, splenic lymphocytes proliferative capacity and peripheral blood T lymphocyte CD4-CD8 subsets distribution. [Results] The data show that high dose did not ensure a good immunity. In our study, 8% (4/5) of peptide 364-2.5-inoculated guinea pigs (2.5 μg of peptide 364 per animal) were protected against AF/72 strain challenge, while the protection ratio from other peptide-immunized groups was lower except the inactivated vaccine-inoculated group which showed a full protection. Our results also indicated that the stimulatory ability of CD4⁺ T lymphocyte response played a key role in evaluating effective FMDV vaccine. The highest percentage of CD4⁺ T lymphocyte was 36.6% appeared in inactivated vaccine-immunized guinea pigs, the second was 33.7% in peptide 364-2.5-vaccinated group, whereas the remaining ranged from 18.1% to 27.7%. There was no obvious relation between CD8⁺ T cells and anti-FMDV infection; our data showed that the CD4/CD8 ratio was not always appropriate for assessing the immune system status. [Conclusion] In general, we not only designed an effective vaccine against FMDV type A, but also discovered some useful information of humoral and cellular responses induced by foot-and-mouth disease vaccines.

Keywords: foot-and-mouth disease virus (FMDV), synthetic peptide, humoral response, cellular response, CpG oligodeoxynucleotide, CD4⁺ T lymphocyte

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