



细菌样颗粒——新型乳酸菌表面展示技术及其应用

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摘要: 细菌样颗粒(Bacterium-like particles, BLPs)是一种新型非遗传修饰型乳酸菌表面展示技术, 外源蛋白可通过锚钩蛋白锚定于经热酸处理而得的乳酸菌肽聚糖骨架表面, 形成空心表面展示颗粒。因其安全性高、表面展示密度大、黏膜递送效率高, 又兼有佐剂效应, BLPs 广泛应用于黏膜疫苗和黏膜佐剂的开发、病毒抗原的纯化、生物催化剂的制备等领域。本文就 BLPs 的构建、独特优势、目前的应用及尚需解决的问题等方面进行详细综述, 以期展现 BLPs 新型表面展示平台的广阔应用前景。

关键词: 细菌样颗粒, 表面展示技术, 乳酸菌

乳酸菌(lactic acid bacteria, LAB)是一类可以将碳水化合物发酵成乳酸的革兰氏阳性菌的总称。包含乳酸杆菌属、乳酸球菌属、链球菌属、肠球菌属、明串珠菌属、片球菌属和双歧杆菌属等。乳酸菌是公认安全(generally regarded as safe, GRAS)的食品级微生物, 在过去 20 多年里, 重组乳酸菌作为抗原蛋白、药物分子、外源 DNA 的黏膜递送工具, 广泛应用于疫苗研制、药物递送、基因治疗等各个领域^[1]。乳酸菌作为递送载体外源蛋白有 3 种表达方式: 一是外源蛋白表达于乳酸菌细胞内; 二是在信号肽的作用下将外源蛋白分泌到细胞外; 三是将外源蛋白表达后锚定

到菌体表面^[2], 其免疫效果以表面锚定者最佳。目前为止, 一系列病毒、细菌和寄生虫抗原在乳酸菌表面得到了成功展示。但由于重组乳酸菌为活酶遗传修饰生物体(genetically modified organisms, GMO), 转基因和活菌的应用可能存在于外源基因或修饰基因向环境扩散或横向传递给其他生物体的安全隐患^[2]。2006 年, Bosma 等首次开发了一种基于细菌样颗粒(Bacterium-like particles, BLPs)的非活性(non-living)、非遗传修饰(non-GMO)的新型乳酸菌表面展示技术, 在黏膜疫苗的研发中显示出安全、高效的独特优势^[3]。

基金项目: 吉林省青年人才托举工程(201709); 吉林农业大学科研启动基金(201703)

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收稿日期: 2018-04-24; 修回日期: 2018-07-19; 网络出版日期: 2018-11-27

1 BLPs 新型乳酸菌表面展示技术

BLPs 是一种将食品级乳酸菌经热酸处理，去除原有蛋白质、核酸和脂磷壁酸等胞内外大分子物质而只留下细胞壁肽聚糖(peptidoglycan, PGN)骨架的空心颗粒，其大小和形态与活菌相似，因此被称为细菌样颗粒^[4]，这一处理方法适用于所有具有厚而致密细胞壁的革兰氏阳性菌，因此，也曾被称为革兰氏阳性菌增强基质(Gram-positive enhancer matrix, GEM)，但大部分细菌在这样剧烈的化学处理下易于裂解，而乳酸菌因其良好的耐酸性则不会裂解^[5]。作为新型抗原展示平台，外源抗原蛋白通过融合锚钩蛋白(protein anchor, PA)，牢牢地结合于肽聚糖骨架表面。该系统操作简单方便，在体外将 PA 和抗原蛋白融合表达后，加入热酸预处理的乳酸菌肽聚糖颗粒中孵育，在 PA 的帮助下，即可形成抗原展示颗粒^[6](图 1)。

通常 PA 来自于乳酸菌自身表达的肽聚糖水解酶(AcmA)。AcmA 有 2 个活性中心，分别为 N-端水解酶活性中心和 C-端细胞壁结合活性中心。在 BLPs 展示体系中起锚定作用的就是 AcmA 的 C-端结构域，它由 3 个被异源序列间隔开的自溶素基序(lysine motif, LysM)组成，每个 LysM 由 45 个氨基酸残基组成，且高度同源，也被称为重复基序，可以特异性地以非共价键(范德华力和氢键)的形式结合在肽聚糖骨架上，其结合能力非常强，只有在 SDS 或者氯化锂处理时才能将锚定蛋白解离下来^[7]，可在-80 °C、5 °C、25 °C 等不同温度条件下稳定保存 2 年以上^[5]。PA 属于少数无种属特异性的可以结合细菌细胞壁蛋白之一，它不仅能够识别并结合于乳酸菌细胞壁，而且还能结合于其他革兰氏阳性细菌细胞壁^[7]。并有研究表明 PA 中 LysM 基序数量的多少对外源蛋白结合细胞壁的能力具有重要的影响，而只有在

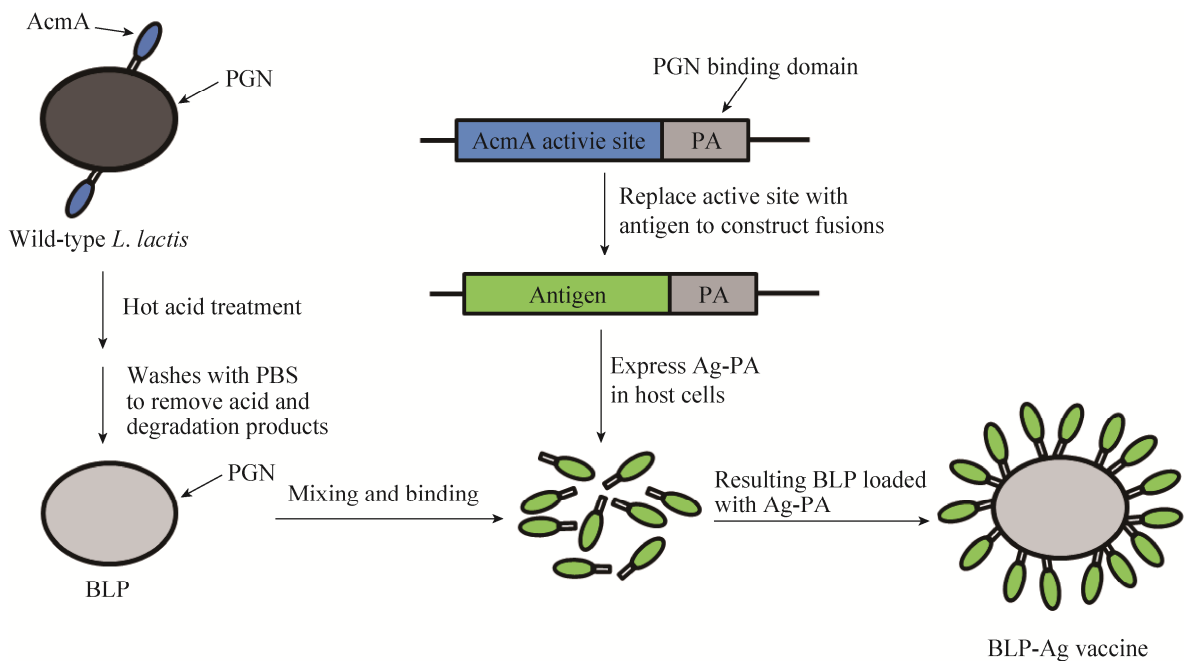


图 1. BLPs 疫苗构建示意图^[5]

Figure 1. Schematic representation illustrating the preparation of a BLPs-based vaccine^[5].

LysM 数量为 3——即天然构成的结构域时, 外源蛋白的锚定效率最高^[8], 正如 AcmA 需要有 3 个 LysM 重复基序才能表现出最佳的肽聚糖结合活性和良好的酶活性^[9]。

2 BLPs 表面展示系统的独特优势

2.1 安全性高

与其他表面展示系统相比, 乳酸菌 BLPs 最突出的优势为安全性高。首先, BLPs 由无致病性的食品级乳酸菌制备, 来源安全; 其次, 乳酸菌 BLPs 为非活性 (non-living)、非遗传修饰生物体 (non-GMO), 不含任何核酸物质, 最大程度地减少了重组 DNA 向环境和其他生物传播的风险。

2.2 抗原展示密度大

BLPs 可高密度地展示外源抗原蛋白, 其负载能力远超越母本活菌。乳酸菌活菌表面的脂磷壁酸和磷壁酸等物质可阻碍 LysM 的结合, 研究证实, 经热酸处理去除这些物质后, 其结合外源蛋白的能力可显著提高。Steen 等通过免疫荧光方法检测 LysM 介导乳酸菌展示的外源蛋白时, 发现表面有脂磷壁酸和磷壁酸等物质的位点阳性荧光斑点分布较少, 而经热酸处理后阳性荧光信号显著增多, 且分布于整个菌体表面^[10]。Zeng 等采用近场扫描光学显微技术和原子力显微镜技术分析了表面展示鼠疫杆菌 V 抗原细菌样颗粒的纳米结构及结合密度, 即使保守计算单个颗粒表面也至少有 3000 个量子点, 所包装的抗原分子密度为 1492 分子/ μm^2 , 而表达有高密度 CD4 分子的 T 细胞其密度仅为 866 分子/ μm^2 ^[11]。另据 Bosma 等的计算, BLPs 的饱和结合量为 140–150 $\mu\text{g}/\text{U}$ (2.5×10^9 颗粒), 平均为 10^6 锚定蛋白/分子, 其结合能力比依赖蛋白表达的传统重组乳酸菌载体系

统高 2–3 个数量级^[3], 能有效递送足够量的抗原物质是诱导机体产生强烈免疫反应的必要条件。

2.3 具有自体佐剂效应

Toll 样受体是一类重要的模式识别受体 (pattern recognition receptors, PRRs), 能通过识别不同的病原相关分子模式 (pathogen-associated molecular patterns, PAMPs), 在连接固有免疫与特异性免疫的关键环节发挥着极为重要的作用^[12]。BLPs 的主要成分是肽聚糖, 为 TLR2 的配体之一^[13]。表达于固有免疫细胞和黏膜上皮细胞的 Toll 样受体 (Toll-like receptors, TLRs) 家族, 通过与 PAMPs 的相互作用, 启动胞内信号传导通路, 激活固有免疫反应, 增强天然免疫系统对病原微生物的清除和杀伤能力。现已证实 BLPs 通过激活 TLR2 信号通路, 诱导宿主树突状细胞 (dendritic cell, DCs) 成熟, 高表达 CD80、CD86、CD40 和 MHC-II 等表面分子, 成熟的 DCs 分泌 IFN- γ 、IL-2 等炎症细胞因子, 从而平衡 Th1 型和 Th2 型免疫, 激发更有效的免疫应答反应^[14–15]。相反, 敲除 TLR2 基因的小鼠接种流感 BLPs 佐剂疫苗后特异性 B 细胞和 IFN- γ 分泌性 T 细胞数量均显著低于野生型小鼠, 几乎检测不到黏膜 SIgA 和系统 IgG2c 的分泌^[16]。

2.4 黏膜递送效率高

BLPs 大小约 1 μm , 刚好是黏膜表面 M 细胞摄入外源抗原的理想大小, 可被位于鼻咽上皮组织和肠道的 M 细胞有效摄入并转运至抗原递呈细胞^[17–18]; 同时, 大小为 1–2 μm 的抗原颗粒可以更有效地与黏膜表面抗原递呈细胞互作促进抗原的捕获, 位于肠黏膜相关淋巴组织的 Peyer's 结节和鼻腔的鼻咽相关淋巴组织是机体共同黏膜免疫系统 (common mucosal immune system, CMIS) 的一部

分,能有效诱导抗原特异性 Th 细胞、细胞毒性 T 淋巴细胞和 IgA 分泌 B 细胞反应,启动局部黏膜和全身系统性免疫应答反应^[19-20];因此,BLPs 是一种理想的黏膜疫苗形式。

2.5 易于多价疫苗的构建

Audouy 等基于 BLPs 展示平台分别构建了表面展示肺炎链球菌抗原蛋白 IgA1p、PpmA 和 SlrA 的 BLPs 疫苗,通过将三种颗粒按一定比例混合,可制备成二价、三价肺炎链球菌疫苗^[21]。由于来自乳酸菌自溶素 AcmA 的 PA 蛋白与肽聚糖的非共价结合无特异性,两种或两种以上融合蛋白均可同时锚定于 BLPs 表面,制备成多价疫苗。随后该团队将肺炎球菌的 PpmA、SlrA 和 IgA1p 与 PA 融合蛋白表达后,任意二者或者三者按一定比例与裸露 BLPs 孵育后均可锚定在 BLPs 表面,制备为表面同时展示肺炎链球菌抗原蛋白的二价或三价 BLPs 疫苗^[14]。

3 BLPs 表面展示系统的应用

3.1 作为疫苗佐剂

季节流感病毒 A/Wisconsin (H3N2)的 HA 亚单位疫苗添加 GEM 颗粒,鼻内免疫小鼠后诱导产生 HI 抗体的效价 >40 ,相当于肌肉注射免疫的水平,比无佐剂组诱导产生的抗体水平更高、持续期更长,而且可诱导局部 SIgA 的产生^[22]。另外,0.04 μg 流感病毒 A/PR/8/34 (H1N1)的 HA 亚单位疫苗添加 GEM 颗粒可诱导产生与 1–5 μg 无佐剂 HA 亚单位疫苗相当的 HI 抗体水平^[23]。商品化的甲型 H1N1 流感病毒裂解疫苗添加 GEM 佐剂鼻内免疫小鼠可显著提高血清特异性 IgG 和 HI 抗体水平,无论在近处的肺、鼻腔黏膜还是较远的阴道黏膜位点均可诱导产生 SIgA,保护小鼠抵御同源和异

源强毒株的致死性攻击,且攻毒后肺脏病毒载量较无佐剂组降低 100 倍^[24]。目前,乳酸菌 GEM 颗粒作为季节性流感亚单位疫苗佐剂,取得了良好的应用效果,已完成临床 1 期评价^[4]。

3.2 作为黏膜疫苗递送载体

黏膜是机体的第一道防线,有效的黏膜免疫能够在病原入侵开始就起到防护作用,阻止病原进一步感染。黏膜疫苗接种无需带针注射,免疫副反应少,且适合大群免疫、多次免疫,是预防疾病感染的最佳途径。BLPs 因其安全、高效的独特优势,多种呼吸道、消化道传染病 BLPs 黏膜疫苗已成功制备,均显示出良好的免疫保护效果(表 1)。表面展示呼吸道合胞体病毒(RSV)F 蛋白的 BLP-RSVF 通过鼻腔黏膜免疫 Balb/c 小鼠或棉鼠,能诱导产生比灭活苗更高水平的鼻腔 SIgA 和血清中和抗体,受强毒攻击后能显著减少肺脏病毒载量^[25],成为预防 RSV 安全而有效的候选疫苗,目前已获得英国药物临床试验许可。

3.3 作为病毒抗原纯化方法

通常病毒纯化的方法主要有:超速离心沉淀法(密度梯度)、超滤和分子排阻色谱(分子大小)、离子交换色谱(电荷)及亲和层析(特异性结合),这些方法费时费力,且无法保证纯化的纯度与得率,将其应用于疫苗生产存在许多局限性,尤其培养液中杂蛋白、核酸、脂类、糖类等异源物质易引起免疫抑制、免疫副反应等。国内侯继波研究员团队通过将能与病毒特异性结合的接头分子融合 PA 结合于 BLPs 表面,与病毒的细胞培养物共孵育后,借助接头蛋白将病毒抓取下来,实现对病毒抗原的一步纯化。如将 O 型口蹄疫病毒(FMDV)的纳米抗体与 PA 序列融合经大肠杆菌串联表达后,锚定结合于 BLPs 表面,取适量与病毒培养物

表 1. BLPs 黏膜疫苗免疫原性与免疫保护力

Table 1. Immunogenicity and immunological protection of mucosa vaccine based BLPs

Pathogen	Displayed antigens	Vaccination route	Animal model	Tested parameter	Observed outcome	
Virus	Influenza virus HA	i.n.	Mouse	Immune responses and correlate of protection	Serum HI titers >40, strong increase compared to i.m. commodity vaccine ^[4]	
	HA1	i.g.	Mouse	Immune responses and lethal challenge	Significant level of serum IgG and sIgA. Survival rate of mice was up to 88% (7/8) ^[26]	
	M2e	i.n.	Mouse	Immune responses and i.n. challenge	100% protection, strong reduction of lung viral load ^[4]	
	NP	i.n.	Mouse	Cellular response	Th1/Th2 balanced cellular response (IFN- γ /IL4 ratio) ^[4]	
Virus	RSV	F	Mouse, cottonrat	Local mucosal response and correlate of protection	sIgA in the nose and neutralizing antibodies in sera. Strong reduction in lung virus titers upon RSV challenge ^[25]	
	Bacteria	<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	IgA1p, SlrA or/and PpmA	i.n., i.m.	Mouse	Immune responses and Pulmonary and i.n. challenge
Bacteria	<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	PspA	i.n.	Mouse	Immune responses and i.n. challenge	PspA-specific IgG in sera and sIgA in mucosal washes. 100% protection against homologous and heterologous pneumococcal strain ^[27]
	<i>Streptococcus pneumoniae</i>	Plym2	i.n.	Mouse	Both systemic and mucosal immune responses	High level of serum IgG antibodies and sIgA antibodies in lung lavages ^[18]
	<i>Yersinia pestis</i>	LcrV	i.n./i.g.	Mouse	Immune responses and i.v. Challenge	100% protection and 85% protection respectively ^[15]
Bacteria	<i>Shigella</i> spp.	IpaB or/and IpaD	i.n.	Mouse	Immune responses and Pulmonary challenge	100% protection against <i>S. flexneri</i> in adults and partial protection in newborns; 90% cross-protection against <i>S. sonnei</i> ^[17]
Bacteria	<i>Campylobacter jejuni</i>	CjaA or/and CjaD	i.n./s.c./in ovo	Chickens chicken eggs	Immune responses and oral challenge	No protected effect i.n. or s.c. inoculation against intestinal tract colonization of wild type <i>C. jejuni</i> strain, while administered in ovo the mean level was reduced 100 times and correlate of significant levels of protection ^[28]
Bacteria	<i>Helicobacter pylori</i>	CUE	i.n.	Mouse	Immune responses and i.n. challenge	Urease-specific antibody and local Th1/Th17 cell-mediated immune response. Strong reduction in the urease activity, gastric inflammation level and bacterial colonization ^[29-30]
Parasites	<i>Plasmodium berghei</i>	CSP	i.m.	Mouse	Immune responses and Infected mosquito challenge	100% protection ^[31]

i.m.: intramuscular; i.n.: intranasal; i.g.: intragastric; i.v.: intravenous; s.c.: subcutaneous.

共孵育, 简单的一步低速离心后收获的沉淀即为纯化后的 FMDV 抗原, 其回收效率可达到 99%, 杂蛋白去除率达到 90%^[32], 动物免疫试验结果显示纯化后的 FMDV 具有良好的免疫原性; 通过将

与病毒糖蛋白特异性结合的胶原样凝集素与 PA 融合表达后锚定于 BLPs 表面, 实现对猪繁殖与呼吸综合征病毒(PRRSV)的纯化, 并且该病毒纯化体系具有广泛的适用性, 可以用来纯化所有与凝

集素结合的病毒^[33]。

3.4 用于固定化酶与生物转化

多年来,表面展示的生物技术的另一个重要应用就是构建全细胞生物催化剂。纯化的游离或固定化酶用于传统酶促反应,由于酶生产与纯化成本较高,固定化是有效的策略。传统的做法是将酶展示在经遗传修饰的产生细胞表面,但是由于暴露不完全或错误折叠可能会降低酶的活性。为了解决这一问题,将活性酶融合锚定序列经适宜的宿主表达后形成正确的构象,再结合于乳酸菌 BLPs 上,这样酶会以高活性的形式完全展示在肽聚糖骨架表面。枯草杆菌蛋白酶 QK-2 能降解纤维蛋白,是一种有效的血栓溶解剂,通常纯化于枯草芽孢杆菌 QK02 培养上清,但复杂的纯化方法限制了其广泛应用, Mao 等通过将其 C 端融合 PA 序列分泌表达后,结合于 BLPs 表面,所形成的展示颗粒依然保持其纤维蛋白溶解活性,有望广泛应用于血栓形成性疾病的防治中^[34]。同样, Bosma 等将地衣杆菌 α -淀粉酶与 PA 融合表达后可结合并展示于 BLPs 表面,并且融合有 PA 的地衣杆菌 α -淀粉酶和大肠杆菌 β 内酰胺酶可同时展示在 BLPs 表面,并保持各自的酶活^[3]。

4 展望

细菌样颗粒作为一种新型乳酸菌表面展示技术,近年来的快速发展和在疫苗研制、佐剂开发、蛋白纯化等方面的广泛应用已充分表明该技术具有巨大的发展潜力,尤其在黏膜疫苗的研发上可望与病毒样颗粒疫苗一道成为最有前景的基因工程亚单位疫苗形式。但目前 BLPs 仍属新兴领域,有关家禽 BLPs 黏膜疫苗的有效性及其相关免疫机制的报道尚不多见。尽管现已证实 BLPs 可被哺

乳动物的 TLR2 分子所识别,但家禽的免疫系统在某些方面与哺乳动物不同,家禽的 chTLR2 具有 chTLR2t1 (chTLR2 type 1)和 chTLR2t2 (chTLR2 type 1)两种亚型,二者可分别与 chTLR1LA (chTLR1-like protein A)和 chTLR1LB (chTLR1-like protein B)形成 4 种类似哺乳动物 TLR2/TLR1 或 TLR2/TLR6 的异源二聚体,因此, BLPs 作为家禽黏膜疫苗的研发形式其有效性如何、通过何种分子对其进行免疫识别成为当前亟需解决的科学问题。作者所在实验室目前正在以家禽新城疫病毒为模型,构建 BLPs 黏膜疫苗,以期展现 BLPs 在家禽上的广阔应用前景,为家禽传染病黏膜疫苗和黏膜佐剂的研发提供有力借鉴。在外源融合蛋白的制备上,较为常见的表达宿主有大肠杆菌、乳酸菌、昆虫细胞、哺乳动物细胞等,但目前所制备的 BLPs 疫苗其抗原蛋白多以非糖基化蛋白为主,广泛表达于大肠杆菌、乳酸菌等原核宿主中,但对于某些病原其保护抗原蛋白为表面糖蛋白(如流感病毒的 HA 蛋白),实现对糖蛋白的高效可溶性表达和最大程度地保持免疫原的天然构象,也是今后 BLPs 疫苗研发的重要突破方向。随着 BLPs 理论研究的不断深入,以及未来蛋白表达与展示相关技术和工艺的不断成熟,基于 BLPs 的微生物表面展示技术必将在更多领域具有广阔的应用前景。

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Bacterium-like particles—a novel surface display technology for lactic acid bacteria and its application

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Abstract: The studies on lactic acid bacteria as live vehicles for expression and display of heterologous proteins or antigens have gained great progress in the past decades. Recently, a novel display system called Bacterium-like particles was designed and described. This system is based on nonliving and non-genetically modified gram-positive bacterial cells, generally the innocuous bacterium *Lactococcus lactis* pretreated by hot acids. The peptidoglycan-binding domain of lactococcal AcmA protein has been used as the protein anchor for heterologous surface display of various proteins on lactic acid bacteria. Compared to the living lactic acid bacteria, Bacterium-like particles have a higher binding capacity, safety, delivering efficiency, and less anticarrier response. They have been widely used in the development of mucosal vaccines and adjuvants, purification of viral antigens, and preparation of biocatalysts. In this review, we focus on the construction, unique advantages of Bacterium-like particles, and successful application in many fields. Finally, we will discuss the broad application prospects and problems to be solved in the nearly future.

Keywords: Bacterium-like particles, surface display technique, lactic acid bacteria

(本文责编: 李磊)

Supported by the Youth Talent Promotion Project of Jilin Province (201709) and by the Doctoral Project Sponsored by the Scientific Research Foundation of Jilin Agricultural University (201703)

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Received: 24 April 2018; Revised: 19 July 2018; Published online: 27 November 2018