



银白色葡萄球菌的发现、分布与致病性

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摘要: 银白色葡萄球菌(*Staphylococcus argenteus*)是金黄色葡萄球菌(*S. aureus*)的近缘新种, 于2015年正式被鉴定、命名。在此之前, 银白色葡萄球菌一直被认为是金黄色葡萄球菌种内的一个远源支系。该物种绝大多数菌株分离自人体, 基因组上含有大量与金黄色葡萄球菌同源的毒力基因, 可导致与金黄色葡萄球菌类似的临床感染和食物中毒症状。因为与人类健康相关, 银白色葡萄球菌受到了越来越多的关注, 目前已在20多个国家被报道。但是由于出现较晚, 与金黄色葡萄球菌难以区分, 银白色葡萄球菌的全球分布状况、原始生境和传播过程尚不清楚。本文从发现过程、分布、致病性和鉴定方法等方面综述了银白色葡萄球菌的最新研究进展。

关键词: 银白色葡萄球菌, 金黄色葡萄球菌复合群, 施韦策葡萄球菌, 临床感染, 食品安全, 多位点序列分型

葡萄球菌属(*Staphylococcus*)是人类和其他温血动物体表、皮脂腺体和黏膜等部位的主要菌群之一, 在自然环境中分布广泛^[1]。很多凝固酶阳性葡萄球菌(coagulase-positive *Staphylococci*, CoPS)可以引起人体感染, 其中, 以金黄色葡萄球菌(*S. aureus*)最为知名。金黄色葡萄球菌是人类体表、前鼻腔的正常菌群, 也是条件致病菌, 部分菌株具有很强的致病性和传染性, 还可引发社区感染^[2]。同时, 由于分布广泛、与动植物关系

密切, 金黄色葡萄球菌也是引发食物中毒、威胁食品安全的重要菌群之一^[3]。因为在临床感染和食品安全领域的重要性, 金黄色葡萄球菌得到了广泛而深入的研究。目前(2020年2月), 金黄色葡萄球菌的多位点序列分型(multilocus sequence typing, MLST)数据库已收录5800多个ST(sequence type)型(<https://pubmlst.org/saureus/>); 已发布的基因组数据超过11000份(<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/genome/>)。2015年, Tong等将金黄

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色葡萄球菌种内的 2 个远源支系独立出来, 建立为 2 个新的物种, 分别命名为银白色葡萄球菌 (*S. argenteus*) 和施韦策葡萄球菌 (*S. schweitzeri*)^[4], 这 3 个物种构成了新的金黄色葡萄球菌复合群 (*S. aureus* complex, SAC), 共用同一个 MLST 数据库。这一分类学提议随后被著名病原微生物学期刊 *Journal of Clinical Microbiology* 认可并向病原微生物学界推广^[5]。2019 年, 欧洲临床微生物与传染病学会 (European Society of Clinical Microbiology and Infectious Diseases, ESCMID) 下属的葡萄球菌和葡萄球菌病研究组 (Study Group for Staphylococci and Staphylococcal Diseases, ESGS) 针对实践中银白色葡萄球菌的诊断、监测、治疗和预防等问题提出了建议^[6]。

银白色葡萄球菌的绝大多数菌株分离自人体, 可以引起与金黄色葡萄球菌类似的感染症状, 比如皮肤与软组织感染、菌血症和败血症等, 甚至导致死亡^[6-8]。同时, 银白色葡萄球菌也含有葡萄球菌肠毒素 (staphylococcal enterotoxin, SE) 基因, 可以导致食物中毒^[9-11]。目前, 该物种已在 20 多个国家被分离鉴定, 呈现出全球分布局势^[6,9]。比较基因组学分析发现^[12-13], 银白色葡萄球菌含有金黄色葡萄球菌 >75% 的毒力基因, 且绝大多数氨基酸序列一致性 >85%; ST2250 谱系已经发生国际间传播。与银白色葡萄球菌类似, 施韦策葡萄球菌也含有金黄色葡萄球菌 >75% 的毒力基因, 甚至有些特征与金黄色葡萄球菌更加相似^[4,12]。然而, 目前该物种的分离株只在非洲被分离获得, 主要源自灵长类^[14-15]和蝙蝠 (*Rousettus aegyptiacus* 和 *Eidolon helvum*)^[16-18]。虽然体外实验表明施韦策葡萄球菌对人体细胞具有毒性^[19-20], 也发现了人源分离株, 但尚未证实可以

感染人类^[21-22]。

从已有的文献资料来看, 这 3 个物种 16S rRNA 基因序列几乎一致 (相似性 >99.7%), 表型特征非常相似, 基因组水平的差异也比一般的种间差异要小 (图 1)。最明显的 2 个差异是^[4,23]: 1) 银白色葡萄球菌因为缺少操纵子 *crtOPQMN* (可合成 staphyloxanthin 等黄色色素) 均形成白色菌落, 而金黄色葡萄球菌和施韦策葡萄球菌均含有 *crtOPQMN*; 2) 银白色葡萄球菌和施韦策葡萄球菌的肽聚糖类为 A3 α A11.8 型 (L-Lys-L-Ala-Gly₄₋₅), 而金黄色葡萄球菌为 A3 α A11.2 型 (L-Lys-Gly₄₋₅)。这 2 个新种的出现, 加深了人们对金黄色葡萄球菌相关类群多样性的认识, 为研究金黄色葡萄球菌的进化和致病性机制提供了新的参比对象。因为与人类健康相关, 且国内关注较少, 本文从发现过程、分布、致病性和鉴定方法等方面, 重点对银白色葡萄球菌的国内外研究现状进行综述。

1 银白色葡萄球菌的发现过程

在银白色葡萄球菌被建立为独立的物种之前, 相关菌株通常被作为金黄色葡萄球菌对待。这主要是因为银白色葡萄球菌与金黄色葡萄球菌的表型特征极其相似, 常规的生理生化方法难以将二者区分^[6,23]。但是通过对核心基因组上的基因序列进行分析, 可以区分这 2 个物种 (图 1-B)。MLST 是进行金黄色葡萄球菌分子分型等多样性调查时常用的指标之一, 金黄色葡萄球菌的 MLST 数据库也被相关研究者广泛采用。因此, 本文主要通过 MLST 数据追溯早期与银白色葡萄球菌相关的文献资料。

金黄色葡萄球菌的 MLST 方法于 2000 年正式被建立, 使用的 7 个管家基因分别是 *arcC*、

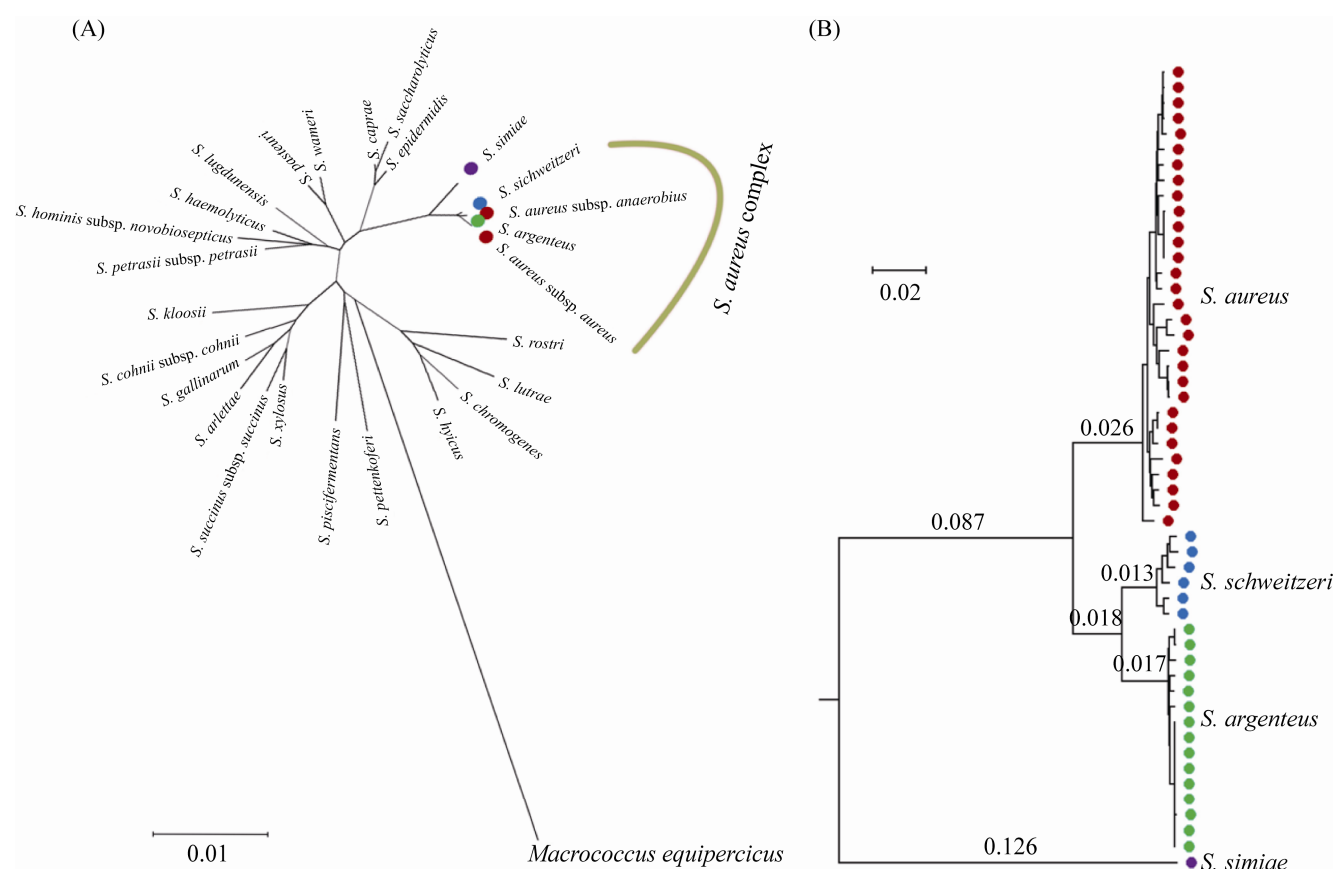


图 1. 银白色葡萄球菌在属内的分类地位

Figure 1. Phylogeny of *S. argenteus* among the genus *Staphylococcus*. A: phylogenetic tree based on 16S rRNA gene sequences from the type strains of the representative staphylococci. All the sequences were downloaded from the EzBioCloud server (<https://www.ezbiocloud.net/>), and the tree was inferred using the Neighbor-Joining method and the Kimura 2-parameter method in MEGA X^[24]. B: maximum-likelihood phylogenetic tree based on concatenated deduced amino acid sequences of 1375 single copy core genes among *S. aureus* complex (SAC) and *S. simiae*. The tree was reconstructed based on our previous study^[12]. The branch lengths are indicated on the branches.

aroE、*gmk*、*glpF*、*pta*、*tpi* 和 *yqiL*^[25]。2002 年, Okuma 等^[26]在分析 35 株耐甲氧西林金黄色葡萄球菌(methicillin-resistant *S. aureus*, MRSA)时报道了一株与常见金黄色葡萄球菌谱系具有明显差异的菌株(属于 ST75)。该菌株分离自澳大利亚 Darwin 地区,在当时并没有引起特别的注意。随后,与 ST75 密切相关的菌株相继在澳大利亚、英国、柬埔寨、斐济、法国、法属圭亚那、新西

兰、泰国、特立尼达&多巴哥共和国、比利时、新加坡、马来西亚、加蓬、中国、以色列、丹麦、缅甸、老挝、日本、瑞士、阿治曼、瑞典等 20 多个国家和地区被报道(表 1, 表 2)。绝大多数菌株分离自东南亚和澳大利亚北部^[9]。

在相关的菌株被发现之初,一些学者就注意到 ST75 相关的类群 CC75 (clonal complex 75)与典型的金黄色葡萄球菌在基因序列上存在显

表 1. 银白色葡萄球菌在世界范围内的分布
Table 1. The global distribution of *S. argenteus*

Country	Source	Lineage	SCC <i>mec pvl</i>	References
Asia				
Ajman	Human nares	CC2250, CC2198, CC2596	–	+/- [27]
Cambodia	Human nares	ST1223	n.d.	n.d. [28]
India	Hospital	ST2731 ^a	+	[29]
Israel	Hospital	ST2250	n.d.	n.d. [13]
Japan	Hospital, food	ST2250, ST2198, ST1223, ST3951	– ^b	– ^b [10–11,30–32]
Laos	Hospital	ST1223, ST2250	+/-	– [33]
Malaysia	Hospital	ST2250	+ ^b	– ^b [13]
Myanmar	Hospital, healthy human	ST2198, ST2250, ST2854, ST4625	– ^b	+ ^b [34–35]
Singapore	Hospital	ST2250	n.d.	n.d. [13]
Thailand	Hospital, rabbit, raw milk	ST1223, ST2198, ST2250, ST2854, ST2793, ST4210 ^a , ST4211 ^a , ST4630 ^a , ST4631 ^a , ST4632 ^a , ST4638 ^a	+/- ^b	+/- [7–8,13,36–38]
Africa				
Gabon	Gorilla, hospital	ST2198, ST2617 ^a	– ^b	– [39–40]
Nigeria	Bat	ST3952, ST3960, ST3961, ST3963, ST3980, ST4326	n.d.	– [18]
Tunisia	Sheep	ST2056 ^a	n.d.	– [41]
America				
Dominican Republic	Hospital	ST1793 ^a	n.d.	n.d. [42]
French Guiana	Human nares	ST1223	n.d.	– [43]
Trinidad & Tobago	Hospital	CC1223, CC2250	–	– [44]
U.S.A	Hospital	ST2250	–	– [45]
Europe				
Belgium	Healthy human	ST2250, ST3240 ^a	+/-	– [46]
Denmark	Hospital	ST1223, ST2250, ST2793, ST2854	+/- ^b	– ^b [47]
France	Hospital	ST2250	– ^b	– [48]
Germany	Hospital	ST1267 ^a		[49]
Norway	Hospital	ST2793, ST1223	+	n.d. [50]
Sweden	Hospital	ST2250, ST1223, ST2793	+ ^b	+/- ^b [51–53]
U.K.	Hospital	ST2793	+	– [4]
Oceanica				
Australia	Hospital	ST75 ^a , ST258 ^a , ST883 ^a , ST1223, ST1303 ^a , ST1304 ^a , ST1823, ST1824, ST1848, ST1849, ST1850, ST2198, ST2793	+/-	– [9,54]
Fiji	Hospital	CC75	– ^b	n.d. [55–56]
New Zealand	Hospital	CC75	n.d.	n.d. [55]

CC: clonal complex; n.d.: no data available; *pvl*: genes encoding Pantone-Valentine leucocidin (PVL); ST: sequence type. +: positive; –: negative. ^a: STs with 1–3 loci closely related to *S. aureus* (identity>97%); ^b: summarized on the results of partial isolates because the other had no data available.

表 2. 银白色葡萄球菌在我国的分布
Table 2. The distribution of *S. argenteus* in China

Location	Source	Lineage	SCCmec	<i>pvl</i>	References
Chengdu	Fish product, RTE food	ST1610 ^a , ST3484 ^a	- ^b	-	[60-61]
Chongqing	Hospital, chicken	ST2250	+/-	- ^b	[62-63]
Guangzhou	RTE food	ST3504 ^a , ST2196 ^a , ST3482*, ST2483 ^a	n.d.	-	[60]
Haikou	Hospital	ST2196 ^a , ST4435 ^a	+/-	n.d.	[64]
Hongkong	Fish product	ST1685 ^a	-	n.d.	[61]
Ningbo	n.d.	ST2250, ST3261	-	-	[23]
Sanya	RTE food	ST3485 ^a	n.d.	-	[60]
Shanghai	Hospital, healthy human, pork	ST2250, ST4297 ^a	-	-	[23,65]
Shijiazhuang	Fish product	ST2196 ^a	-	n.d.	[61]
Taiwan	Hospital	ST2250, ST2793, ST1223, ST2198	-	n.d.	[66-67]
Xiamen	Slaughter house, rte food	ST2483 ^a , ST3387 ^a , ST3388 ^a	+ ^b	-	[60,68]
Zhanjiang	RTE food	ST2483 ^a	n.d.	-	[60]

CC: clonal complex; n.d.: no data available; *pvl*: genes encoding Pantone-Valentine leucocidin (PVL); RTE: ready-to-eat; ST: sequence type. +: positive; -: negative. ^a: STs with 1-3 loci closely related to *S. aureus* (identity>97%); ^b: summarized on the results of partial isolates because the other had no data available.

著的差异。McDonald 等^[57]于 2006 年建立了一种基于 MLST 基因位点单核苷酸多态性(single-nucleotide polymorphism, SNP)的实时定量 PCR (real-time PCR)方法来鉴定 ST75 相关的菌株。银白色葡萄球菌可以使用金黄色葡萄球菌的 MLST 方法进行分型,但是由于基因序列差异较大,使用标准的金黄色葡萄球菌引物时,经常会出现一些问题,尤其是 *aroE* 和 *glpF*。2009 年, Ruimy 等^[28]和 Ng 等^[58]分别针对这 2 个基因位点重新设计引物来完成人体来源 CC75 相关菌株的 MLST。他们也指出: *aroE* 和 *glpF* 位点不易扩增可能会导致相关的菌株被误认为是无害的葡萄球菌而未被报道,而之前报道的 ST75、ST805、ST883 和 ST1304 在这 2 个位点上可能是不正确的(表 1, 图 2)。另外, Ng 等^[58]也发现, CC75 相关的菌株在基于 *gap*、*rpoB*、*sodA*、*tuf* 和 *hsp60* 等管家基因构建的系统发育树上与典型的金黄色葡萄球菌存在显著差异。目前来看, Ng 等的猜测很可能是对的,因为 2009 年之后(尤其是银白色葡萄

球菌被建立为独立的物种之后),几乎再没有属于这 4 个 ST 分离株的报道;银白色葡萄球菌已测序基因组(>150 个)的菌株均不属于这 4 个 ST,也未发现在 *aroE* 和 *glpF* 位点上与金黄色葡萄球菌一致性>97%的基因组。但是,除了 *aroE* 和 *glpF*,在其他位点也存在类似问题的 ST 仍有不少被报道(图 2)。

2011 年, Holt 等^[59]报道了 CC75 相关菌株 MSHR1132^T (=DSM 28299^T =CGMCC 1.13854^T)的全基因组,基因组分析结果表明:菌株 MSHR1132^T 与典型金黄色葡萄球菌的平均核苷酸分歧值为 10%,而金黄色葡萄球菌种内通常 <2%;附属基因组上的一些遗传元件也出现在 MSHR1132^T 上,如 *vSaa*, *vSaβ*, *SCCmec* 等;MSHR1132^T 缺少可以合成黄色色素的操纵子 *crtOPQMN*,含有 CRISPR-Cas (clustered regularly interspaced short palindromic repeat-associated system)系统。根据这些结果, Holt 等认为 MSHR1132^T 和 CC75 相关的菌株应该代表一个独

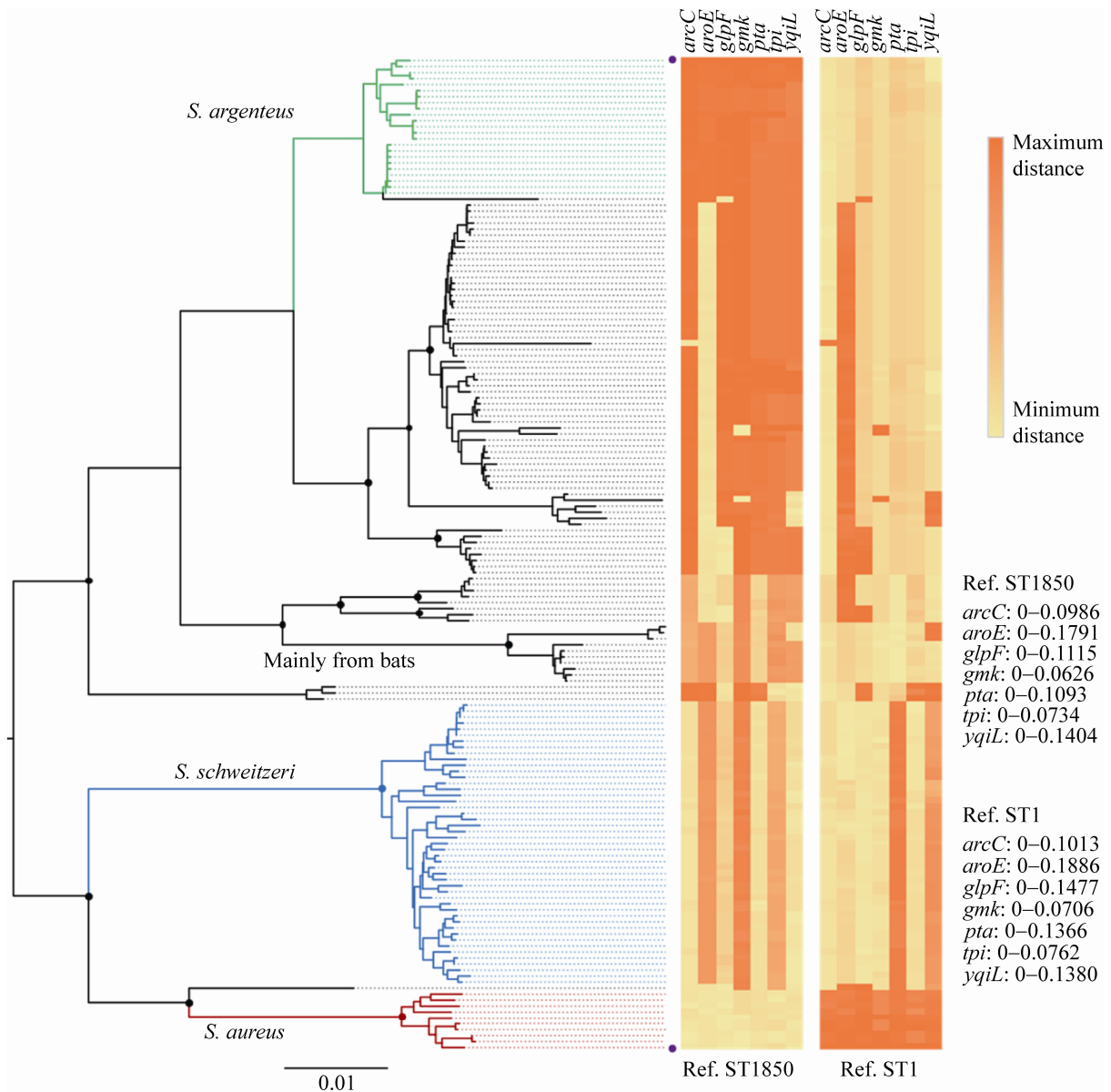


图 2. 银白色葡萄球菌相关 ST 的多样性及其序列分化

Figure 2. Diversity and divergence of sequence types (ST) associated with *S. argenteus*. The Neighbor-Joining tree was constructed based on 165 STs downloaded from the *S. aureus* MLST database (<https://pubmlst.org/saureus/>), including 10 well-known *S. aureus* STs (the red clade), 23 confirmed *S. argenteus* STs (green), 47 confirmed *S. schweitzeri* STs (blue), 7 STs mainly from bats, and 78 contentious STs containing 1–3 loci closely related to *S. aureus* (identity>97%). The STs contain 1–3 loci closely related to *S. argenteus* and/or *S. schweitzeri* were not included in the analysis. The Kimura 2-parameter method and bootstrap test (1000 replicates) were employed to infer the evolutionary relationships in MEGA X^[24], and the percentage (>70%) of replicate trees in which the associated taxa clustered together are indicated with black dots on the nodes. The distances of each loci from each ST compared with ST1850 (upper) and ST1 (nether), which are marked with purple dots on the right of the tree tips, are shown on the right. The distances were calculated based on nucleotide sequences using Kimura 2-parameter method in MEGA X^[24]. A high-resolution version of this figure with tip labels (STs) is available on request from the author DF Zhang (zdf@hhu.edu.cn).

立的物种, 并建议命名为 *S. argenteus*。2015 年, Tong 等^[4]开展了系统而全面的分类鉴定工作, 将 CC75 相关的类群建立为一个新的物种, 正式命名为 *S. argenteus* (*argenteus* 意为 silvery)。Tong 等^[4]选用了 6 株银白色葡萄球菌、6 株施韦策葡萄球菌和 18 株金黄色葡萄球菌开展生理生化鉴定工作, 结果表明这 3 个物种在底物利用和产水解酶类等方面不存在类群水平的差异, 但是种间的 ANI (average nucleotide identity) 和 DDH (DNA-DNA hybridization) 值 <95% 和 <70%。显然, 银白色葡萄球菌和施韦策葡萄球菌在基因组水平确实应该代表独立的物种。由于除了 *crtOPQMN* 和细胞壁肽聚糖类型(见上文)之外未发现其他明显的差异, 这 3 个物种也被统称为 *S. aureus* complex (SAC)^[12,17-19]。Becker 等^[6]也建议在单独描述银白色葡萄球菌和施韦策葡萄球菌时应该注明, 它们是金黄色葡萄球菌复合群成员(member of *S. aureus* complex)。

银白色葡萄球菌在我国南方地区也有广泛分布, 但是除了台湾地区之外, 其他城市分离到的菌株均较少(表 2)。Zhang 等^[23]使用普通 PCR 方法对一个非核糖体多肽合成酶(nonribosomal peptide synthetase, *NRPS*)基因上的特异片段进行扩增, 通过比较 PCR 产物片段的大小, 成功地从宁波和上海分离的 839 株“金黄色葡萄球菌”中筛选出 6 株(0.7%)银白色葡萄球菌。这 6 株菌是 2005–2014 年间从食品、人体体表或临床样本中分离获得, 属于 ST3261 (1 株)和 ST2250 (5 株)。Cao 等^[69]在研究 CRISPR-Cas 系统时, 报道了一株分离自上海的临床菌株 SH3 及其基因组序列, 随后 Zhang 等^[12]的基因组分析结果表明 SH3 属于银白色葡萄球菌 ST2250。Jiang 等^[62]报道了

2014 年重庆地区一名 64 岁女性髌关节被银白色葡萄球菌反复感染的病例, 而导致感染的菌株 XNO106 (ST2250)可以像一些金黄色葡萄球菌一样形成小菌落变种(small colony variants, SCV)以提高自身的耐药性。Chen 等^[66]针对台湾医学中心 2010–2012 年间的 394 株菌血症“金黄色葡萄球菌”分离株的回顾性研究表明, 47 株(11.93%)属于银白色葡萄球菌, 均对甲氧西林敏感。与甲氧西林敏感金黄色葡萄球菌(methicillin-susceptible *S. aureus*, MSSA)相比, 银白色葡萄球菌表现出更高比例的继发性多菌感染、血小板减少、下呼吸道感染和短期死亡。Chu 等^[67]从进行血液透析的病人血液中分离获得的 73 株菌中, 10 株属于银白色葡萄球菌。Li 等^[63]从重庆采集的鸡肉样品中分离得到 6 株银白色葡萄球菌 ST2250 菌株, 均含有 III 型 *SCCmec* 元件。另外, 我国其他地区报道的 10 多个疑似银白色葡萄球菌 ST 中, 均含有 1–3 个与金黄色葡萄球菌高度相似的等位基因(表 2, 图 2)。

2 银白色葡萄球菌的鉴定方法

银白色葡萄球菌在表型上明显区别于金黄色葡萄球菌和施韦策葡萄球菌的特点是: 目前发现的所有银白色葡萄球菌在常见的培养基上均形成白色菌落。这是因为这些菌株缺少可以合成黄色色素的操纵子 *crtOPQMN*^[4,23,59]。然而, 金黄色葡萄球菌大约也有 10%的分离株会形成白色菌落, 这通常是因为基因突变或者代谢通路被抑制^[23]。由于缺少显著的表型差异, 使得银白色葡萄球菌与金黄色葡萄球菌的区分、鉴定无法依靠传统的生理生化方法或相关的自动化鉴定系统

来完成。目前,有效的区分、鉴定方法主要是基于基因序列差异的分子生物学手段或者 MALDI-TOF MS (matrix-assisted laser desorption/ionization time-of flight mass spectrometry)。MALDI-TOF MS 的方法能否区分银白色葡萄球菌和金黄色葡萄球菌(以及施韦策葡萄球菌),取决于所使用的比对数据库的版本,或者需要检测人员具有足够的经验来识别结果中的特异信号^[6,39,70]。

虽然,已知的银白色葡萄球菌和部分金黄色葡萄球菌均可以形成白色菌落,但是在筛选银白色葡萄球菌时通过白色菌落这一特点可以排除绝大多数金黄色葡萄球菌和施韦策葡萄球菌。Zhang 等^[23]根据菌落颜色和一个 *NRPS* 基因的特异位点设计了一种“两步法”来区分、鉴定这 3 个物种。金黄色葡萄球菌在这个 *NRPS* 基因的特异区段,相比另外两个物种出现了一段约 180 bp 的缺失。因此,针对这个区段进行 PCR 扩增并进行琼脂糖凝胶电泳即可得到以下结果:金黄色葡萄球菌产生一个较短的 PCR 产物(约 160 bp);银白色葡萄球菌和施韦策葡萄球菌产生一个较长的产物(约 340 bp)。将菌落颜色和 *NRPS* 的 PCR 产物长短结合起来,即可区分这 3 个物种:形成黄色菌落、产生较短 PCR 产物的是金黄色葡萄球菌;形成黄色菌落、产生较长 PCR 产物的是施韦策葡萄球菌;形成白色菌落、产生较短 PCR 产物的是金黄色葡萄球菌;形成白色菌落、产生较长 PCR 产物的是银白色葡萄球菌。需要注意的是,该方法是针对初步鉴定为“金黄色葡萄球菌”的分离株设计,比如经过 Baird-Parker 琼脂平板筛选出来的菌株^[23]。

鉴定银白色葡萄球菌最可靠的方法是进行保守基因的序列测定,比如 *gap*、*rpoB*、*sodA*、

tuf 和 *hsp60*^[4,58,63],并且通常只需要使用一个基因进行比较分析即可。作为银白色葡萄球菌鉴定的“黄金标准”,MLST 不仅可以反映种内多样性,也提供了菌株之间进化关系的基本框架。由于核心基因组上的显著差异,使用标准的金黄色葡萄球菌 MLST 方法时,银白色葡萄球菌在 *aroE* 和 *glpF* (有时也包括 *yqiL*) 位点会出现 PCR 扩增困难的情况,这是因为这些基因的种间变异程度较大(图 2)。Ruimy 等^[28]、Ng 等^[58]和 Thaipadungpanit 等^[8]分别针对这 2 个基因位点单独设计引物来完成 CC75 相关菌株的 MLST。但是在不确定分离株属于哪个物种时,不同物种使用不同的引物就会显得繁琐、低效。Zhang 等^[23]设计了对 SAC 3 个物种普遍适用的 *aroE* 和 *glpF* 引物,简化了涉及多物种时的 MLST 方法。使用标准引物和 PCR 反应条件检测 *nuc1* 时,部分银白色葡萄球菌和所有的施韦策葡萄球菌会出现无法扩增的情况,但是如果设计出通用引物,*nuc1* 基因测序的方法在理论上也可以区分 SAC 3 个物种^[4,71]。*spa* 分型也被认为是一种有望区分 SAC 3 个物种的方法^[6],但是尚缺少标准的判断依据,且部分银白色葡萄球菌会出现无法扩增相应片段的情况^[43,68]。另外,基于 RT-qPCR 的方法也需要更多菌株以进一步验证其可靠性^[57,72]。一些金黄色葡萄球菌检验的国家标准,如 GB 4789.10-2016、GB/T 7918.5-1987 和 GB/T 14926.5-2001,只涉及生理生化特征,理论上也可以将银白色葡萄球菌作为疑似的金黄色葡萄球菌检出,并监测其安全隐患。涉及核酸特征的一些地方标准和行业标准,是否能检出银白色葡萄球菌,还有待进一步验证。

3 银白色葡萄球菌的致病性和毒力基因

由于相关的报道较少, 银白色葡萄球菌在临床感染、食品安全和畜牧养殖领域的重要性尚不清楚。在早期, 研究者认为银白色葡萄球菌的毒力比金黄色葡萄球菌低, 临床感染后患者的表现也不同^[7,59,73]。而最近的一些研究发现, 在医院感染、发病率和致死率方面二者并没有明显区别^[8,66]。目前, 已发现银白色葡萄球菌可以导致的感染有皮肤和软组织感染(包括化脓、坏死性筋膜炎)^[57-59]、骨骼及关节感染^[8,48,62,74]、血液感染^[7-8,48,59]和毒素型食物中毒^[10-11]等, 可以污染的食品有猪肉、鸡肉、鱼肉和即食食品(表 2), 也可以污染食品加工与生产相关的环境^[35,68]或被健康人群携带^[28,43]。从这些方面来看, 银白色葡萄球菌和金黄色葡萄球菌并没有明显的区别。

葡萄球菌黄素(staphyloxanthin)是金黄色葡萄球菌表现出黄色表型的主要化合物, 由出现在同一个操纵子 *crtOPQMN* 上的 5 个基因和 *aldH* 基因参与合成^[75]。因为具有抗氧化和抗嗜中性粒细胞作用, 抑制葡萄球菌黄素合成通路会导致典型金黄色葡萄球菌毒力的下降^[76]。然而将 *crtOPQMN* 导入菌株 MSHR1132^T 后, 该菌株除了抗氧化能力提高之外, 对小鼠的皮肤感染能力并没有显著变化, 对兔子防御肽耐受能力和导致心脏内膜炎能力反而减弱^[73,77]。因此, 银白色葡萄球菌较弱的致病性并不仅仅是因为缺少葡萄球菌黄素, 很可能还涉及其他方面的机制。

Zhang 等^[12]通过比较基因组学分析对银白色葡萄球菌的毒力基因进行预测, 结果发现在

111 个金黄色葡萄球菌毒力基因中, 85 个(76.6%)出现在银白色葡萄球菌中, 56 个(50.5%)基因的种间核苷酸一致性表现出显著差异($P < 0.01$)。对金黄色葡萄球菌非常重要的一些毒力基因(簇)也出现在银白色葡萄球菌的基因组上, 比如: 对菌膜形成非常重要的 *icaA-D*; 编码 VII 型分泌系统的 *esaA-C*、*essA-C* 和 *esxAB*; 吸附血红素相关基因 *isdA-G* 和 *srtB*; 基因岛 *vSaa* 和 *vSaβ*; 通常携带毒力基因和耐药基因的原噬菌体; 以及溶血素、荚膜多糖和葡萄球菌肠毒素(staphylococcal enterotoxins, SE)等相关基因^[6,9,12]。已知的 27 种 SE (也被称为葡萄球菌超抗原)基因已有 12 种出现在银白色葡萄球菌中^[9,19]。早期的分离株均不携带杀白细胞毒素(pantone-valentine leucocidin, PVL)基因, 而后来发现的部分菌株却含有相关基因^[7,27,36-37,48] (表 1)。其他大部分尚未在银白色葡萄球菌中发现的毒力基因, 通常是出现在金黄色葡萄球菌的可移动元件上, 且很容易获得或丢失(主要是 SE 和其他外毒素基因)。而基因组分析也表明了一些可移动元件在 SAC 物种间转移的可能性, 如 CRISPR-Cas 系统、SCC*mec* 元件、原噬菌体等^[12,47,68]。

从已有的数据来看, 银白色葡萄球菌的耐药性整体比金黄色葡萄球菌弱, 除了 *blaZ* 介导的盘尼西林耐药性之外, 其他耐药性比率较低, 如四环素、氨基糖苷类、克林霉素和红霉素等^[7,36,48,57,66]。在甲氧西林耐药性方面, 除了从 MRSA 中筛选得到的菌株外, 耐甲氧西林银白色葡萄球菌的比率并不高(表 1)。已发现银白色葡萄球菌含有的 SCC*mec* 元件主要类型为 IV 型^[46-47,51,57-78], 少量菌株含有 II 型^[52]、III 型^[63]或 V/VII 型^[51,68]。

4 银白色葡萄球菌的原始生境

病原菌溯源对了解其致病性形成、传播过程以及防控措施的制定至关重要。银白色葡萄球菌的原始生境是后续相关研究急需解答的重要问题之一。除了东南亚和澳大利亚,其他地区分离得到的银白色葡萄球菌比率均较低,绝大多数报道只涉及个位数的菌株^[9]。即使2015年之后,一些研究者已经注意到这种病原体,这种情况依然没有改变。值得注意的是,目前已报道的分离株主要来自临床样品或人体携带情况调查(表1)。因此,很可能银白色葡萄球菌的原始生境并不是人体相关的环境^[9],它也不是一个“古老”的人类病原菌。一些学者认为,银白色葡萄球菌很可能是来源于家畜相关的环境,其主要的谱系ST1223和ST2250是经过宿主适应性进化才具备感染人类的能力^[9,12-13]。支持性的数据主要来自对ST2250的研究。首先,*sel26*和*sel27*(编码SEI26和SEI27)出现在所有的ST2250菌株基因组上,但是在金黄色葡萄球菌中出现频率很低(3/248);Zhang等筛选到的3株菌均分离自生牛乳,而不同SAC物种来源的SEI26和SEI27对不同宿主的活性也存在差异^[19]。其次,普遍存在于ST2250基因组上的CRISPR-Cas系统、四环素耐药基因*tet(L)*和重金属抗性基因,也主要存在于家畜相关的金黄色葡萄球菌中^[13]。再次,主要分离自绵羊和山羊的金黄色葡萄球菌厌氧亚种(*S. aureus* subsp. *anaerobius*)也缺少*crtOPQMN*^[9]。另外,Moradigaravand等^[13]使用分子钟推算结果表明,银白色葡萄球菌ST2250大约是在15年前传入泰国。

另外,一些蝙蝠来源的菌株被鉴定为银白色

葡萄球菌,这些ST非常稀有,与其他银白色葡萄球菌的ST型相关,但是存在较大差异^[18](图2)。银白色葡萄球菌的传播和起源是否与蝙蝠有关还需要进一步研究。但是,这从另外一个方面表明,野生动物相关的环境可能存在着更加多样的SAC类群。

5 总结和展望

银白色葡萄球菌是2015年正式被建立的病原新物种,与金黄色葡萄球菌共用同一个MLST数据库,属于金黄色葡萄球菌复合群。该物种呈现出全球分布局势,已在我国10多个城市被分离培养。因为被正式命名的时间较晚,并且与金黄色葡萄球菌缺少足够的差异,银白色葡萄球菌尚未被广泛认识。分子水平的差异可能导致大量相关菌株被鉴定为金黄色葡萄球菌或其他细菌,而被错误地报道或未被报道。这些问题导致现有银白色葡萄球菌的文献资料较少,人们对这个类群的认识也非常有限。

银白色葡萄球菌可以导致多种人体感染,可以污染食品,也可以被健康人群携带,这些表现均与金黄色葡萄球菌类似,但是其耐药性偏弱。因此,ESCNID认为^[6],在医疗卫生行业的实践中没有必要将二者进行区分。但是在基础研究领域,比如分子流行病学调查,有必要将它们明确区分,以尽快摸清其分布与传播规律。涉及分子水平的一些实验方法,也需要尽快升级换代,以满足SAC不同物种的诊断和研究需求。我国对银白色葡萄球菌的研究已经获得了一些结果,但是非常有限,尤其是临床感染方面的研究较少。泰国和我国台湾地区已经发现了一定规模的银白色葡萄球菌感染,我国大陆地区(尤其是南方)可

能也存在着一定程度的流行, 因此有必要对银白色葡萄球菌开展进一步的调查研究。而银白色葡萄球菌的起源和原始生境问题, 则需要不同国家和地区、不同领域的微生物学者共同努力才能解答。

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Emergence, distribution and pathogenicity of *Staphylococcus argenteus*

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Abstract: *Staphylococcus argenteus* was identified and proposed to be a novel species closely related to *S. aureus* in 2015, and considered as a genetically divergent lineages within *S. aureus*. Most of *S. argenteus* strains are isolated from humans, could cause the same infections and foodborne illnesses as *S. aureus*, and harbor homologs of most virulence genes found in *S. aureus*. Because of its associations with human health, *S. argenteus* is a focus in more and more studies and reported in more than 20 countries/regions. It is still unclear about its global distribution, original habitat and dissemination, because this species is just recognized several years ago and is difficult to be distinguished from *S. aureus*. This paper reviews the recent progress on the emergence, distribution, pathogenicity and identification methods of *S. argenteus*.

Keywords: *Staphylococcus argenteus*, *Staphylococcus aureus* complex, *Staphylococcus schweitzeri*, clinical infection, food safety, multilocus sequence typing

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