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临床研究·论著

## 妊娠早期超声胎儿颈项透明层厚度对胎儿畸形及胎儿健康状况的诊断价值\*

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**摘要: 目的** 探讨妊娠早期超声胎儿颈项透明层厚度(NT)对胎儿畸形及胎儿健康状况的诊断价值。**方法** 选取2019年1月—2022年10月三亚市妇幼保健院经超声诊断的胎儿NT增厚的孕妇210例, 比较有无器官结构畸形、有无染色体核型异常的胎儿的NT厚度的差异, 比较正常分娩存活与不良妊娠结局胎儿NT厚度的差异。**结果** 210例孕妇中, 最终诊断胎儿器官结构畸形87例(41.43%), 其中多处畸形者50例; 胎儿染色体核型异常68例(32.38%)。有胎儿器官结构畸形组NT厚度高于无胎儿器官结构畸形组( $P < 0.05$ )。有染色体核型异常组NT厚度高于无染色体核型异常组( $P < 0.05$ )。胎儿NT厚度诊断器官结构畸形的受试者工作特征(ROC)曲线结果显示, 曲线下面积为0.879(95% CI: 0.832, 0.927), 截断值为4.21 mm, 敏感性和特异性分别为88.50%(95% CI: 0.810, 0.930)和75.60%(95% CI: 0.700, 0.805); 胎儿NT厚度诊断染色体核型异常的ROC曲线下面积为0.840(95% CI: 0.785, 0.896), 截断值为4.30 mm, 敏感性和特异性分别为88.20%(95% CI: 0.803, 0.940)和66.90%(95% CI: 0.603, 0.760)。正常分娩存活胎儿NT厚度低于不良妊娠结局胎儿( $P < 0.05$ )。胎儿NT厚度诊断不良妊娠结局的ROC曲线结果显示, 曲线下面积为0.833(95% CI: 0.780, 0.887), 截断值为4.52 mm, 敏感性和特异性分别为66.30%(95% CI: 0.610, 0.723)和84.30%(95% CI: 0.760, 0.910)。**结论** 妊娠早期超声胎儿NT在诊断胎儿器官结构畸形、染色体核型异常以及不良妊娠结局方面有较好的应用价值, 值得进一步研究。

**关键词:** 超声诊断; 胎儿颈项透明层厚度; 妊娠早期; 胎儿畸形; 染色体核型异常; 妊娠结局

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## Value of nuchal translucency in diagnosing fetal malformation and predicting fetal health during early pregnancy\*

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**Abstract: Objective** To explore the value of nuchal translucency (NT) in the diagnosis of fetal malformation and the prediction of fetal health during early pregnancy. **Methods** The 210 pregnant women with a thickened fetal NT in Sanya Maternal and Child Health Hospital from January 2019 to October 2022 were selected. The fetal NT thickness was compared between fetuses with and without structural abnormalities and chromosomal abnormalities, and between those with normal delivery and adverse pregnancy outcomes. **Results** Among 210 pregnant women, 87 cases (41.43%) were finally diagnosed with structural abnormalities, of which 50 cases had

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multiple structural abnormalities. Sixty-eight cases (32.38%) were diagnosed as chromosomal abnormalities. The fetal NT thickness of pregnant women with fetal structural abnormalities was higher than that of pregnant women without structural abnormalities ( $P < 0.05$ ). The fetal NT thickness of pregnant women with fetal chromosomal abnormalities was higher than that of pregnant women without chromosomal abnormalities ( $P < 0.05$ ). The receiver operating characteristic (ROC) curve analysis revealed that the area under the ROC curve of fetal NT thickness for diagnosing fetal structural abnormalities was 0.879 (95% CI: 0.832, 0.927) with a cutoff value of 4.21 mm, and the sensitivity and specificity were 88.50% (95% CI: 0.810, 0.930) and 75.60% (95% CI: 0.700, 0.805), respectively. The area under the ROC curve of fetal NT thickness for diagnosing fetal chromosomal abnormalities was 0.840 (95% CI: 0.785, 0.896) with a cutoff value of 4.30 mm, and the sensitivity and specificity were 88.20% (95% CI: 0.803, 0.940) and 66.90% (95% CI: 0.603, 0.760), respectively. The fetal NT thickness in those with normal delivery was lower than that in those with adverse pregnancy outcomes ( $P < 0.05$ ). The area under the ROC curve of fetal NT thickness for predicting adverse pregnancy outcomes was 0.833 (95% CI: 0.780-0.887) with a cutoff value of 4.52 mm, and the sensitivity and specificity were 66.30% (95% CI: 0.610, 0.723) and 84.30% (95% CI: 0.760, 0.910), respectively. **Conclusion** NT is of great value in predicting fetal structural and chromosomal abnormalities and adverse pregnancy outcomes, which warrants further study.

**Keywords:** ultrasound diagnosis; fetal nuchal translucency thickness; early pregnancy; fetal malformation; abnormal chromosome karyotype; pregnancy outcome

随着我国生育政策的开放,高龄妊娠、瘢痕妊娠的人数越来越多,不良妊娠结局的发生率也逐渐升高<sup>[1]</sup>。为促进优生优育,临床常通过绒毛活检、羊水穿刺等手段对妊娠期女性进行检查,但上述操作是有创操作,有致流产的可能,故部分孕妇不愿接受<sup>[2-3]</sup>。因此探究一种无创、快速及易普及的方法非常重要<sup>[4]</sup>。产前通常采取超声检查,颈项透明层(nuchal translucency, NT)是胎儿颈椎水平矢状切面皮肤至皮下软组织间最大厚度,数值会随胎儿颈部皮下组织内液体的增多而增大<sup>[5-6]</sup>。近年来研究发现,其数值的变化与妊娠风险有关<sup>[7]</sup>。既往研究表明约1/3的NT增厚胎儿出现染色体异常<sup>[8]</sup>。据相关报道,如胎儿NT增厚或孕周14周以后未正常消失会增加胎儿结构畸形的发生率<sup>[9-10]</sup>。因此,可将NT检查作为妊娠排查的检查项目之一<sup>[11]</sup>。

## 1 资料与方法

### 1.1 一般资料

选取2019年1月—2022年10月三亚市妇幼保健院经超声诊断的胎儿NT增厚的孕妇210例纳入标准:①孕11~13<sup>+</sup>6周时超声显示胎儿NT $\geq$ 2.5 mm;②单胎妊娠;③接受绒毛膜、脐血或羊水穿刺进行染色体核型检查;④依从性高,能配合随访;⑤孕妇及家属知情同意。排除标准:①孕妇腹壁较厚,图像采集效果较差;②父母任意一方存在染色体异常;③合并有恶性肿瘤、血液系统疾病等严重

疾病。

### 1.2 方法

采用美国GE公司生产的VoLuson E8型彩色多普勒超声诊断仪,探头频率为3.5~5.5 MHz。孕妇呈仰卧位,检查胎儿结构,测量胎儿NT厚度。当胎儿呈自然屈曲状态时,将探头声束垂直于胎儿颈背部于正中矢状面实施扫描,观察胎儿头部和上胸部图像方法,辨别皮肤和羊膜,测量胎儿NT值,测量3次取平均值。当胎儿出现脐绕颈,需避开环绕脐带的颈部,于上下端进行测量,将上下端测量值的平均值作为最终检查结果。以NT $\geq$ 2.5 mm判定为增厚<sup>[12]</sup>。

B超引导下脐带血穿刺术,离心羊水细胞,并将其接种于培养基中,置入37℃、5%二氧化碳培养箱中培养,培养10 d后,收集细胞制片。进行G-显性染色分析,参照人类染色体遗传学国际命名体制标准对染色体核型进行分析<sup>[13]</sup>。

### 1.3 统计学方法

数据分析采用SPSS 22.0软件。计量资料以均数 $\pm$ 标准差( $\bar{x} \pm s$ )表示,比较用 $t$ 检验,绘制受试者工作特征(receiver operating characteristic, ROC)曲线。 $P < 0.05$ 为差异有统计学意义。

## 2 结果

### 2.1 胎儿器官结构畸形及染色体核型异常情况

210例孕妇中,最终诊断胎儿器官结构畸形

87 例(41.43%), 其中多处畸形者 50 例; 胎儿染色体核型异常 68 例(32.38%), 根据有无胎儿器官结构畸形, 将孕妇分为有胎儿器官结构畸形组、无胎儿器官结构畸形组, 分别有 87 和 123 例; 根据有无染色体核型异常, 将孕妇分为有染色体核型异常组、无染色体核型异常组, 分别有 68 和 142 例。见表 1、2。

表 1 胎儿器官结构畸形分布

器官结构畸形	例(%)
胎儿水肿	33(23.08)
颈部水囊瘤	23(16.08)
单脐动脉	20(13.99)
肢体异常	14(9.79)
心脏畸形	10(6.99)
器官积液	10(6.99)
脐膨出	8(5.59)
腹裂	6(4.20)
唇腭裂	7(4.90)
双肾异常	5(3.50)
鼻骨短小缺失	4(2.80)
小脑蚓部缺失	3(2.10)
合计	143(100.00)

表 2 胎儿染色体核型异常分布

染色体核型异常	例(%)
唐氏综合征	27(39.71)
爱德华斯综合征	20(29.41)
帕套综合征	9(13.24)
特纳综合征	7(10.29)
葛莱弗德综合征	5(7.35)
合计	68(100.00)

### 2.2 各组胎儿 NT 比较

有胎儿器官结构畸形组与无胎儿器官结构畸形组胎儿 NT 厚度分别为  $(5.52 \pm 1.00)$ 、 $(3.70 \pm 0.98)$  mm, 经  $t$  检验, 差异有统计学意义 ( $t=13.145$ ,  $P=0.000$ ), 有胎儿器官结构畸形组高于无胎儿器官结构畸形组; 有染色体核型异常组与无染色体核型异常组 NT 厚度分别为  $(5.20 \pm 0.91)$ 、 $(3.80 \pm 0.96)$  mm, 经  $t$  检验, 差异有统计学意义 ( $t=10.955$ ,  $P=0.000$ ), 有染色体核型异常组高于无染色体核型异常组。

### 2.3 胎儿 NT 厚度对器官结构畸形及染色体核型异常的诊断价值

胎儿 NT 厚度诊断器官结构畸形的 ROC 曲线结果显示, 曲线下面积为 0.879 (95% CI: 0.832, 0.927), 截断值为 4.21 mm, 敏感性、特异性分别为 88.50% (95% CI: 0.810, 0.930)、75.60% (95% CI: 0.700, 0.805) (见图 1A); 胎儿 NT 厚度诊断染色体核型异常的 ROC 曲线下面积为 0.840 (95% CI: 0.785, 0.896), 截断值为 4.30 mm, 敏感性、特异性分别为 88.20% (95% CI: 0.803, 0.940)、66.90% (95% CI: 0.603, 0.760) (见图 1B)。

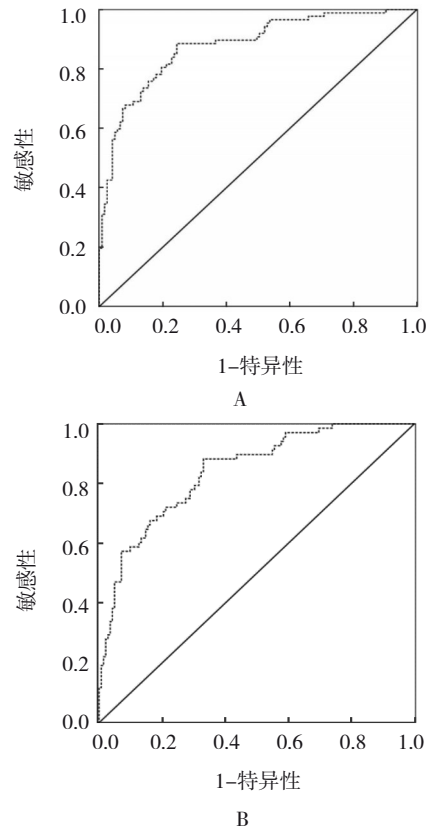


图 1 胎儿 NT 厚度诊断器官结构畸形及染色体核型异常的 ROC 曲线

### 2.4 不同妊娠结局孕妇的胎儿 NT 厚度比较

210 例孕妇中, 胎儿正常分娩存活 115 例, 妊娠终止 72 例, 自然流产或死胎 23 例。正常分娩存活胎儿和不良妊娠结局胎儿 NT 厚度分别为  $(3.62 \pm 0.94)$ 、 $(5.02 \pm 0.91)$  mm, 经  $t$  检验, 差异比较有统计学意义 ( $t=10.898$ ,  $P=0.000$ ), 正常分娩存活胎儿低于不良妊娠结局胎儿。

## 2.5 胎儿NT厚度对不良妊娠结局的诊断价值

胎儿NT厚度诊断不良妊娠结局的ROC曲线结果显示,曲线下面积为0.833(95% CI:0.780,0.887),截断值为4.52 mm,敏感性、特异性分别为66.30%(95% CI: 0.610, 0.723)、84.30%(95% CI: 0.760, 0.910)。见图2。

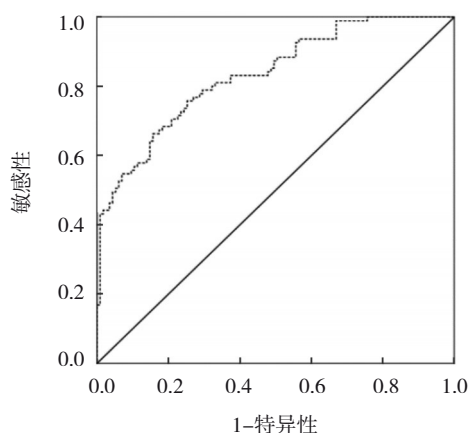


图2 胎儿NT厚度诊断不良妊娠结局的ROC曲线

## 3 讨论

产前检查的重要性已被临床证实,随着越来越多的技术应用于产前筛查,胎儿出生缺陷的发生率有所降低。近年来,越来越多的研究基于胎儿NT值展开研究,虽然已有关于NT增厚与胎儿异常的研究,但是每个研究中心对其的界定不同,且诊断效能也不同<sup>[4]</sup>。本研究结果显示,210例孕妇中,器官结构畸形发生率为41.43%,染色体核型异常发生率为32.38%,提示NT增厚与器官结构畸形、染色体核型异常相关。因此,在孕早期采取超声检查并测量NT厚度对于及时诊断胎儿异常具有重要意义。需要特别注意的是,对于检测出的NT增厚胎儿,即使未发现染色体核型异常,临床也应该给予重视,定期进行超声随访,以及早发现异常并给予干预措施。

本研究结果显示,有胎儿器官结构畸形、有染色体核型异常孕妇平均NT厚度分别显著较无胎儿器官结构畸形、无染色体核型异常孕妇高,提示可以用NT增厚这一现象筛查合并器官结构畸形或染色体核型异常胎儿。本研究结果显示,器官结构畸形中以胎儿水肿、颈部水囊瘤、单脐动脉、肢体异常等较为常见,正常胎儿在孕周第14周后NT会慢慢

消退。若胎儿淋巴管与颈部静脉窦相通延迟,会阻碍颈部淋巴结回流过程,进而使胎儿颈部有大量淋巴液积聚,NT则增厚<sup>[15]</sup>。上述过程的出现会引发胎儿水肿、颈部水囊瘤等。当排除淋巴液回流阻滞这一原因后,羊膜破裂的发生会是头静脉出血、皮下结缔组织变异的危险因素,上述因素最终导致NT增厚<sup>[16]</sup>。有研究显示,NT增厚具有不同的严重程度,NT为4.0、6.0 mm是比较显著的截点,若合理应用这2个节点,可有效地对胎儿分期及异常程度做出判断<sup>[17]</sup>。

染色体核型异常与NT厚度变化之间关系仍存在争议,有研究认为NT厚度增大可以一定程度诊断染色体异常发生情况,但以往研究测得的相关系数不足以证明两者之间的相关关系,且上述关系还需要考虑个体之间的差异<sup>[18]</sup>。以往有研究认为染色体核型异常中以唐氏综合征最为常见。唐氏综合征的发生易使胎儿颈部皮肤细胞外液渗入到其间隔中,导致颈部皮肤发生海绵状变化,NT由此增厚,而本研究也得出类似结论<sup>[19]</sup>。也有研究称,TORCH中包括弓形虫、巨细胞病毒、风疹病毒及单纯疱疹病毒及其他病原体等,其被证实是胎儿畸形或流产的危险因素<sup>[20]</sup>。以往有研究发现TORCH感染会增加NT厚度,可出现在妊娠期的各个阶段,本研究中胎儿NT增厚引发的器官结构畸形、染色体核型异常的原因中也可能有TORCH感染。

本研究结果显示,超声测得的NT增厚反映胎儿染色体核型异常、器官结构畸形的敏感性较高,提示测量NT筛查胎儿器官结构畸形、染色体核型异常的效能较好。在孕早期通过NT厚度变化筛查异常胎儿,有利于为临床咨询提供帮助。本研究结果显示,正常分娩存活组平均NT厚度低于不良妊娠结局组。NT厚度诊断不良妊娠结局的特异性达84.30%。提示NT厚度在胎儿解剖结构尚不清晰的孕早期具有较好地诊断妊娠结局的作用,且该方法特异性较高,值得临床推广。

本研究也存在一些不足之处,一方面本研究样本例数相对较少;另一方面对于超声检查所作质量控制还有待提高,可能会导致数据的偏倚,将在后续的研究中进一步完善。

综上所述,妊娠早期超声NT在诊断胎儿器官结构畸形、染色体核型异常以及不良妊娠结局方



面有较好的应用价值, 值得进一步研究。

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