



专论与综述

酿酒酵母孢子壁结构及其合成相关基因研究进展

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摘要: 细胞壁是酵母细胞区别于哺乳动物细胞的重要特征结构。酵母细胞壁的结构组成、合成、再生等与酵母自身繁殖及环境胁迫压力密切相关。目前, 酵母孢子壁的形成机理、调控过程机制及孢子壁合成相关基因的功能尚未研究清楚。本文以酿酒酵母为例, 简要描述酵母孢子壁的形成过程, 重点阐述孢子壁甘露糖层、葡聚糖层、壳聚糖层和二酪氨酸层的结构组成及其合成相关基因的国内外研究进展, 以期抗真菌药物的新靶点研究提供参考。

关键词: 酿酒酵母, 孢子壁, 结构组成

Spore wall structure and its synthesis-associated genes in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*: a review

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Abstract: The cell wall is a characteristic structure of yeast cells that distinguishes them from mammalian cells. The structural composition, synthesis and regeneration of the yeast cell wall are closely related to self-reproduction and the response to environmental stress. At present, the mechanism of spore wall formation, regulation processes and the function of spore wall synthesis-associated genes remain elusive. This article briefly describes the process of spore wall formation in *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*. The spore wall consists of the mannan layer, glucan layer, chitosan layer and dityrosine layer. We summarize genes

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involved in synthesis of these layers. The purpose of this study is to provide a reference for new antifungal drug target research.

Keywords: *Saccharomyces cerevisiae*, spore wall, structural composition

真菌细胞壁是真菌细胞最外层的一种细胞器,在维持细胞形态、渗透压、繁殖、假菌丝形成、产孢、细胞黏合及抵抗环境胁迫等方面都起到重要作用^[1-5]。酿酒酵母(*Saccharomyces cerevisiae*)是真菌微生物中的重要模式生物之一,在抗真菌药物筛选中应用广泛。杂合二倍体酿酒酵母在处于醋酸盐等非发酵碳源或缺乏氮源的环境下,会从有丝分裂转为减数分裂,最终变为孢子细胞^[6]。酿酒酵母营养细胞壁和孢子壁的区别主要有2个^[6]:(1)形成起源不同,营养细胞壁是以母细胞壁为模板围绕芽殖端延伸闭合而成,而孢子壁是在母细胞的细胞质中从无到有重新生成。(2)结构层次不同,营养细胞壁有两层,内层是葡聚糖层,外层是甘露糖层;而孢子壁从内到外有4层,第1层是甘露糖层,第2层是葡聚糖层,第3层为壳聚糖层,第4层是二酪氨酸层,二酪氨酸层、壳聚糖层是孢子壁的独特结构,使得酵母孢子对环境胁迫具有较强的抵抗能力。因动物细胞中没有细胞壁,真菌细胞壁已成为研发筛选抗

真菌药物的靶点。本文以酿酒酵母孢子壁为例,将近年来酵母孢子壁中的结构组成和孢子壁合成相关功能基因的研究进展做一综述。

1 酵母孢子壁形成过程

酿酒酵母处于葡萄糖等发酵型碳源的营养环境中会进行有丝分裂芽殖后代,但在氮源匮乏或处于醋酸盐、甘油等缺乏营养的环境时,酵母细胞会进入减数分裂,减数分裂 II 期结束后进入产孢阶段并变为休眠孢子^[6]。酵母营养细胞变为孢子细胞的代谢过程非常复杂^[7-10]。酵母孢子壁首先起源于前孢子膜的腔隙内,图 1 揭示了孢子壁逐步形成的过程^[6]。研究表明,营养细胞壁中的层次结构与孢子壁中的层次结构刚好相反,而且孢子壁中的二酪氨酸层和壳聚糖层是其特有的结构组成^[11-12]。Tachikawa 等通过免疫荧光染色发现,孢子壁各层次结构的形成时间存在先后之分,首先生成的是甘露糖层,其次是葡聚糖层,然后是壳聚糖层,最后是二酪氨酸层,只有当内

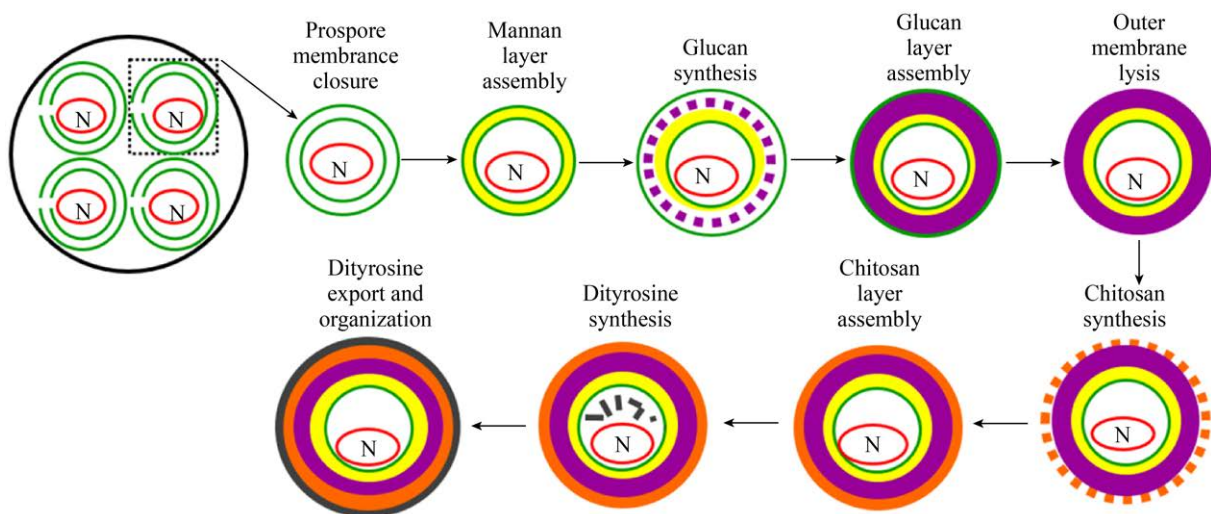


图 1 酵母孢子壁生成组装过程^[6]

Figure 1 Pathway of yeast spore wall assembly^[6]

层(甘露糖层、葡聚糖层)生成后, 外层(壳聚糖层、二酪氨酸层)才能生成^[13]。酵母营养细胞壁和孢子壁结构的区别如图 2 所示^[14]。

2 酿酒酵母孢子壁结构及其合成相关基因

2.1 甘露糖层及其合成相关基因

甘露糖蛋白最初起源于内质网膜腔内, 在其转运过程会被 N-糖基化^[1,15-16]。然后甘露糖蛋白被运输到高尔基体上进行高甘露糖基化修饰^[17]。甘露糖层的组成成分主要包括糖基磷脂酰基醇细胞壁蛋白(Glycosyl Phosphatidyl Inositol Cell Wall Proteins, GPI-CWP)、N-聚糖蛋白、内部重复蛋白(Protein with Internal Repeats, PIR)和 O-糖甘露聚糖蛋白^[1,18]。

当前孢子膜变成环后, 膜腔内会积聚甘露糖蛋白并被组装成甘露糖层^[14]。甘露糖蛋白主要是由分泌囊泡运输而来, 但这些分泌囊泡究竟是来自孢子内还是来自母细胞的细胞质, 则有待进一步研究^[19]。据报道, 虽然 *gip1Δ*、*ama1Δ* 中的孢子膜可以正常生成, 但甘露糖层无法形成, 从而导致其外层孢子壁生成失败, 因此推测它们可能具有感知孢子膜闭合信号的功能, 并启动生成早期孢子壁^[13]。

2.2 葡聚糖层及其合成相关基因

葡聚糖层是在甘露糖层组装完毕后开始形成的, 该层的主要结构单元是 β -1,3-葡聚糖, 此外还有少量的 β -1,6-葡聚糖等。

2.2.1 β -1,3-葡聚糖及其合成相关基因

酵母细胞壁中的 β -1,3-葡聚糖主要有 2 种: 碱

难溶性和碱易溶性。碱难溶性是因为 β -1,3-葡聚糖链的非还原末端可以连接至几丁质, 所以使 β -葡聚糖难溶^[20]。碱易溶性 β -1,3-葡聚糖的组成和大小类似于不溶于碱的 β -1,3-葡聚糖, 但其非还原末端未与几丁质交连, 因此可溶于碱^[21]。

β -1,3-葡聚糖的合成过程需要 β -1,3-葡聚糖合成酶及底物尿嘧啶二磷酸葡萄糖, 而且可在体外合成^[22]。酵母营养细胞中的 β -1,3-葡聚糖合成酶包括 Fks1、Fks2 及 Fks3 且三者是同源蛋白。敲除 *FKS1* 之后, 营养细胞壁中 β -1,3-葡聚糖的含量减少 75%左右, 且会导致细胞的生长速度变慢, 而敲除 *FKS2* 并不影响 β -1,3-葡聚糖合成酶的活性, 也不影响细胞生长, 但如果 *FKS1* 和 *FKS2* 同时被敲除, 则会导致细胞死亡^[23-26]。说明在 β -1,3-葡聚糖的合成过程中, 虽然 Fks1 占主导地位, 但 Fks2 也必不可少^[27-28]。此外, *FKS2*、*FKS1* 两者的表达水平也不同, *FKS1* 的转录水平在营养细胞芽殖 S 早期和 G1 后期最高, 而 *FKS2* 的表达水平在细胞处于半乳糖、甘油、醋酸盐或葡萄糖匮乏的条件下最高^[18,28-29]。虽然酿酒酵母中 *FKS1*、*FKS3* 两者有着高达 55%的相似性, 但 *FKS3* 只在孢子细胞中表达, 而在营养细胞中不表达^[30]。

2.2.2 β -1,6-葡聚糖及其合成相关基因

营养细胞壁中的 β -1,6-葡聚糖除了与几丁质、 β -1,3-葡聚糖连接之外, 也与糖基磷脂酰基醇(Glycosyl Phosphatidyl Inositol, GPI)相连, 使得 GPI 蛋白锚固于细胞壁^[31]。因此, 尽管细胞壁中

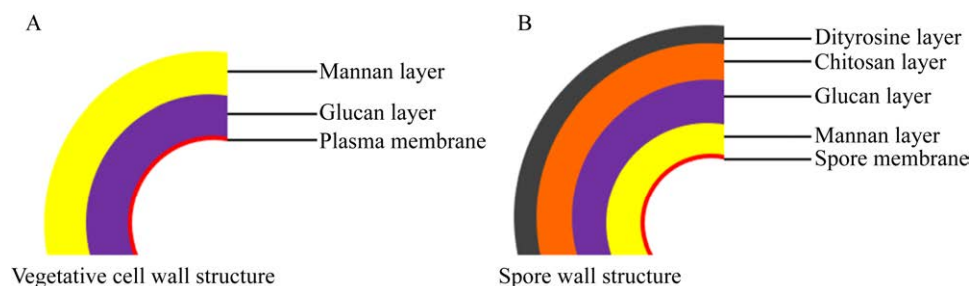


图 2 酵母营养细胞壁(A)与孢子壁(B)的层次结构比较^[14]

Figure 2 Structure of yeast vegetative cell wall (A) and spore wall (B)^[14]

β -1,6-葡聚糖的占比相对较低,但其在维持细胞壁的形态结构方面发挥重要作用。然而,细胞内 β -1,6-葡聚糖的合成机制至今仍未清楚,也无法在体外合成^[32-33]。在酵母营养细胞中,影响 β -1,6-葡聚糖合成的基因主要有 *BIG1*、*KRE9/KNH1*、*KRE1*、*KRE6/SKN1*、*KRE5* 和 *ROT1* 等。研究发现, *Rot1*、*Big1* 及 *Kre5* 都定位于内质网,在 β -1,6-葡聚糖合成过程中,它们的功能可能是参与调控蛋白折叠或蛋白质质量控制^[1]。若 *BIG1*、*ROT1* 或 *KRE5* 被敲除,则细胞壁中 β -1,6-葡聚糖的含量会减少约 95%,并呈现出细胞生长缓慢的缺陷表型^[1,34-36]。据报道, *rot1Δ*、*big1Δ* 的细胞壁中不仅几丁质含量增加,而且 β -1,3-葡聚糖含量也增加^[37-38]。*KRE6* 与 *SKN1* 是同源基因,在 β -1,6-葡聚糖合成过程中必不可少。*KRE6*被敲除后,会减少约 50%的 β -1,6-葡聚糖量,而 *skn1Δ* 细胞壁中的 β -1,6-葡聚糖含量不变,细胞生长正常,相对 *Skn1* 而言,在 β -1,6-葡聚糖合成过程中 *Kre6* 占主导地位^[39]。若 *KRE6* 与 *SKN1* 同时被敲除,则 *kre6Δskn1Δ* 营养细胞壁中 β -1,6-葡聚糖的含量会降低约 90%,并且还会导致细胞生长缓慢,甚至死亡^[40]。如果在 *kre6Δ* 中过量表达 *Skn1*, *kre6Δ* 细胞壁中 β -1,6-葡聚糖的含量则会恢复正常,说明 *Skn1* 与 *Kre6* 可能是功能同源蛋白^[40]。*Kre1* 是一个 GPI 锚定蛋白,是维持细胞壁中 β -1,6-葡聚糖含量正常水平所必需。研究发现,在 *kre1Δ* 营养细胞中,不仅 β -1,6-葡聚糖的含量大概只有野生型细胞的 40%,而且 β -1,6-葡聚糖链的长度变小,因此 *Kre1* 的作用是使 β -1,6-葡聚糖链延伸^[6,41]。*KNH1* 与 *KRE9* 同源,*KRE9* 被敲除后则会严重降低细胞的生长速度,与野生型细胞相比, *kre9Δ* 中的 β -1,6-葡聚糖不仅含量降低约 80%,而且结构发生改变、分子量也变小,而 *knh1Δ* 营养细胞的生长状况和 β -1,6-葡聚糖的含量均无异常,说明 *Kre9* 占主导地位^[42]。据报道, *Kre9* 的功能可能是在细胞壁中固定 β -1,6-葡聚糖^[43]。最近的研究表明,在酵母孢子细胞中, β -1,6-葡聚糖缺失会导

致酵母孢子具有乙醚敏感性并增加孢子壁中的壳聚糖含量,而且 GPI 锚定蛋白无法锚定在孢子壁上^[44]。

此外,也有一些只在产孢阶段表达的基因,如 *CRR1*、*SPO77*、*SSP2*、*SPS2* 与 *SPS22* 等,虽然这些基因的功能未知,推测它们在 β -葡聚糖层的组装过程中发挥重要作用^[14,45-46]。 β -葡聚糖层形成之后孢子外膜会降解,尽管其降解的确切机制仍然未知;但是孢子外膜消失后有利于 *Osw1p* 等孢子壁蛋白组装因子进入,从而协助形成孢子外壁^[14,46]。

2.3 壳聚糖层及其合成相关基因

壳聚糖层是在 β -葡聚糖层组装完毕之后开始生成的,是由胞内的几丁质(甲壳素)经脱乙酰化后生成。营养细胞内负责几丁质合成的酶包括 *Chs1*、*Chs2* 和 *Chs3*^[47-50],而孢子细胞中的几丁质合成酶主要是 *Chs3*^[51]。首先, *Chs3* 在细胞质中将尿苷二磷酸 N-乙酰氨基葡萄糖转化为几丁质(β -1,4-N-乙酰氨基葡萄糖),并将几丁质转运到细胞膜外;然后,几丁质在位于孢子壁上的脱乙酰蛋白酶 *Cda1*、*Cda2* 的催化作用下进行去乙酰化形成壳聚糖^[52-54];随后壳聚糖被定位相关基因 *MUM3*、*OSW1* 等精确定位到孢子壁中,并组装合成壳聚糖层。*Mum3* 蛋白与酰基转移酶具有同源性,表明其具有酶活性,可能在孢子壁的组装过程中发挥作用^[55],而位于孢子壁上的 *Osw1* 或许在壳聚糖层形成过程中起作用^[14,46]。*Cda1*、*Cda2* 在营养细胞中不表达,只在孢子形成期表达,虽然 *cda1Δcda2Δ* 孢子中的几丁质能正常合成,但其脱乙酰化受阻,导致壳聚糖无法合成,使得二酪氨酸层形成失败^[52-53]。*CHS3* 被敲除后,几丁质形成受阻,壳聚糖层缺失,从而导致二酪氨酸层形成受阻,因此 *chs3Δ* 孢子只有甘露糖层与 β -葡聚糖层^[51]。

2.4 二酪氨酸层及其合成相关基因

只有当壳聚糖层完整组装形成之后,二酪氨酸层才会启动合成。因为二酪氨酸层中无多聚糖

和蛋白的存在, 所以该层是孢子壁所特有的成分^[56]。二酪氨酸的生成起始于孢子细胞质中, 其生成过程需要 Dlt1、Dlt2 这 2 个酶, Dlt1 是一种 N-甲酰基转移酶, 可将游离 L-酪氨酸中的 N-甲酰基甲酰化^[57], 而 Dlt2 是一种细胞色素 P450 家族酶, 可将 2 个 N-甲酰基化的 L-酪氨酸分子共价结合交联成二酪氨酸^[58], 然后细胞质中的二酪氨酸被专用的 MDR 系列转运蛋白 Dtr1 运输到壳聚糖层的外表组装成二酪氨酸层^[59]。约 50% 的 L-L 结构二酪氨酸分子在二酪氨酸层组装过程中会转换为 D-L 结构形式^[57-59]。Dlt1 被敲除后则不能形成二酪氨酸层^[57]。据报道, 二酪氨酸层的组装只能在壳聚糖层的外表完成, 壳聚糖层组装失败或壳聚糖不能合成都会导致二酪氨酸层的形成受阻^[51]。目前, 二酪氨酸层的组装过程和结构仍然未知。此外, 还有部分功能不清楚的基因, 如 *OSW2* 等。研究发现, 尽管 *osw2Δ* 突变体的各层孢子壁能正常形成, 但 *osw2Δ* 突变体孢子对乙醚有很强的敏感性^[14], 提示 *osw2Δ* 突变体孢子壁存在缺陷。因二酪氨酸层是酵母孢子抵抗乙醚所必需的, 因此有研究推测 *OSW2* 可能和二酪氨酸层组装有关, 但也有报道认为 *OSW2* 是内层孢子壁(甘露糖层和葡聚糖层)完整组装所必需的^[60]。

3 展望

因哺乳动物细胞中缺少细胞壁的存在, 使得细胞壁成为重要的药物作用靶标之一。研究发现, 真菌细胞中一些重要的细胞壁多糖合成酶如果被抑制, 则会影响细胞壁的生成并导致真菌无法存活。但截至目前, 进入临床测试的只有棘白菌素类抗生素, 该药物可通过非竞争性抑制 β -1,3-葡聚糖合成酶, 从而干扰真菌细胞壁中 β -1,3-葡聚糖的合成。因此, 真菌细胞壁中还有许多潜在的药物作用靶点有待被发现。基因组学研究发现, 即使白色念珠菌等致病菌不能产孢, 但在这些病原真菌中有二酪氨酸合成酶、壳聚糖合成酶的存在^[61]。有研究报道, 白色念珠菌细胞壁中

有二酪氨酸合成相关基因的存在, 若这些基因被敲除, 白色念珠菌的药物敏感性就会增加^[62-63]。此外, 有研究发现致病菌新型隐球菌的细胞壁中含有壳聚糖, 其在维持细胞毒性及细胞壁完整性方面发挥重要作用^[64]。研究发现, 隐球菌中含有一种多酚类化合物, 该化合物与二酪氨酸相似, 不仅可协助真菌抵抗外界的环境胁迫压力, 而且在其侵染过程中还可能协助真菌躲避宿主的免疫应答^[65-66]。因此, 深入研究酵母孢子壁中的各类多糖聚合物与多酚类化合物, 有助于拓展、加深理解真菌细胞壁结构。

当前研究真菌细胞壁最大的难点在于, 营养细胞壁在应对外界环境胁迫时不是一个固定不变的模型骨架, 而是会不断地发生动态变化。然而孢子壁的层次构造不仅固定, 而且可利用基因工程等技术手段调节孢子壁的形成。因此, 在研究真菌细胞壁所面临的最大难点面前, 酿酒酵母孢子壁可为解决该难点提供一个方便操作和易于理解的模型。鉴于酵母营养细胞壁中绝大多数基因都能在孢子细胞壁中找到对应的同源基因, 因此, 深入研究酵母孢子壁形成有关的基因, 也可为今后筛选抗真菌药物提供新的作用靶点和理论基础。

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