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Research progress of pulsed electromagnetic field in the treatment of postmenopausal osteoporosis

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PDF

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Abstract

Abstract: BACKGROUND: Pulsed electromagnetic fields generate pulsed currents, and improve bone metabolism through the stress coupling mechanism. In recent years, evidence has proved that pulsed electromagnetic fields can inhibit postmenopausal osteoporosis in many ways involving bone marrow mesenchymal stem cells, osteoclasts, and bone cells.

OBJECTIVE: To review the effect and therapeutic mechanism of pulsed electromagnetic field on postmenopausal osteoporosis.

METHODS: We searched PubMed, CNKI, WanFang, VIP, and CBMdisc databases for relevant articles with the keywords of "pulsed electromagnetic field; postmenopausal osteoporosis; bone homeostasis; bone metabolism; bone density; biomechanical property; bone marrow mesenchymal stem cells; osteoblasts; osteoclasts; bone cells" in Chinese and English, respectively. Finally, 66 articles met the criteria for review.

RESULTS AND CONCLUSION: Pulsed electromagnetic fields can increase bone density, improve bone biomechanical properties, promote bone formation, and inhibit the osteoclasts to inhibit postmenopausal osteoporosis. At present, pulsed electromagnetic fields are of high feasibility to mediate osteogenic differentiation via Wnt/ β -catenin pathway and OPG/RANKL signaling pathway. Research on the mechanism of bone marrow mesenchymal stem cells, osteoblasts, and osteoclasts indicates a series of processes in the initial stage, including that SIRT1 inhibits NLRP3 inflammasome to mediate bone marrow mesenchymal stem cell pyrolysis, long-chain non-coding RNA and related pathway, osteogenic differentiation, and hypoxia-inducible factors drive osteoclast differentiation. It is of important value to explore whether pulsed electromagnetic fields can regulate inflammasome signals through SIRT1 to inhibit the pyrolysis of bone marrow mesenchymal stem cells, thereby exerting an anti-osteoporosis effect.

Key words: pulsed electromagnetic field, postmenopausal osteoporosis, bone homeostasis, biomechanical properties, bone marrow mesenchymal stem cells, osteoblasts, osteoclasts, bone cells

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