Tao A B et al. (2021) EVALUATING SERUM DIA AS A DIAGNOSTIC MARKER FOR ACUTE MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION AND AORTIC DISSECTION IN ATHLETIC PATIENTS. Revista Internacional de Medicina y Ciencias de la Actividad Física y el Deporte vol. 21 (84) pp. 874- 917. **DOI:** <https://doi.org/10.15366/rimcafd2021.84.015>

ORIGINAL

EVALUATING SERUM DIA AS A DIAGNOSTIC MARKER FOR ACUTE MYOCARDIAL INFARCTION AND AORTIC DISSECTION IN ATHLETIC PATIENTS

Ai-Bin Tao1,2*, Zhen-Wei Mao3,4#, Zhen-Xiong Jiang#5, Hao Wang5, Yong-Wei Yao5, Bin Lu2, Dong Zheng

1Department of Cardiology, Affiliated People's Hospital of Jiangsu University, Zhenjiang, Jiangsu,212000, China ²School of Health and Nursing, Zhenjiang College, Zhenjiang, Jiangsu, China.212000 3Center of Laboratory, Affiliated People's Hospital of Jiangsu University, Zhenjiang, Jiangsu, 212000, China 4School of Health and Nursing, Zhenjiang College, Zhenjiang, Jiangsu, 212000, China 5Department of Cardiology, Affiliated People's Hospital of Jiangsu University, Zhenjiang, Jiangsu,212000, China **E-mail:** doctor_aibin@126.com

Recibido 30 de septiembre de 2019 **Received** September 30, 2019 **Aceptado** 19 de abril de 2019 **Accepted** April 19, 2019

ABSTRACT

Objective: To evaluate the diagnostic potential of serum DIA in detecting differential proteins in athletic patients with aortic dissection (AD) complicated by acute myocardial infarction (AMI). **Methods:** A cohort consisting of AD and AMI patients, including athletes, was assessed from July 2018 to August 2021. Serum DIA levels were compared among 30 participants divided into AD, MI, and control groups. High-throughput DIA quantification and Western blotting were used for protein marker analysis. **Results:** DIA analysis identified significant differences in protein expression among the groups. Proteomic profiling indicated distinct patterns in athletes, with specific markers showing potential for differential diagnosis. The diagnostic value of these markers was further validated using ROC curves. **Conclusion:** The study underscores the diagnostic relevance of serum DIA in athletic patients with AD and AMI, highlighting specific protein markers as potential diagnostic tools. This research contributes to the understanding of cardiovascular risks and diagnostic strategies in athletic populations.

KEYWORDS: DIA; Acute myocardial infarction; Aortic dissection; athletic patient

1. INTRODUCTION

The incidence of aortic dissection (AD) is 7. 2 in 100000 athletic patients, of which 5% are complicated with acute myocardial infarction (AMI). The clinical manifestations of AD complicated with AMI are similar to those of simple AMI, but the treatment plan is contradictory. Therefore, aortic dissection complicated with AMI has a high misdiagnosis rate and mortality (Cui et al., 2021). When ST-T changes or elevated myocardial enzymes are found in electrocardiogram and myocardial enzyme examinations, aortic dissection is easy to be overlooked as the real cause of AMI in clinical diagnosis, and then the wrong treatment is chosen (Hussain et al., 2021). According to a study (Usami, Sai, & Ieda, 2021), thrombolytic treatment significantly increased the mortality of individuals with aortic dissection compared to non-misdiagnosed athletic patients (55.6% vs. 21.2%). In recent years, the incidence of AMI in aortic dissection is increasing, but the number of reported cases is limited. The incidence ratio of male to female is 2:1, and the age of onset is relatively young. About 75% of athletic patients with aortic dissection are complicated with hypertension, Marfan syndrome and other risk factors (Chen, Lu, & Sung, 2019). Aortic dissection describes the creation of true and false lumens in the aorta as a result of blood entering the aortic media from the aortic intima tear and expanding and peeling along the long axis of the aorta (Zhang, Yang, & Wang, 2021). AMI can be complicated when the coronary artery opening or branch is involved in the retrograde progression of aortic dissection (F. Liu et al., 2021).

Standford classifies the dissection according to whether it involves the ascending aorta: dissection involving the ascending aorta is type A, while dissection without ascending aorta is type B (Wang, Wu, Zhao, You, & Li, 2019). Most of the aortic dissection complicated with AMI is type A aortic dissection. Clinically, the timely diagnosis and correct treatment of aortic dissection complicated with AMI are very important. The study of proteomics investigates how proteins in cells, organs, and living things change with time (Li, Gonzalez-Lozano, Koopmans, & Smit, 2020). In order to fully comprehend the relationship between the occurrence of diseases and cell metabolism and other processes from the protein level, the field of proteomics refers to the study of the characteristics of proteins on a large scale, including the expression level of proteins, post-translational modifications, protein-protein interactions (Quan et al., 2021). In the past twenty years, mass spectrometry (MS) has become the preferred method, has been widely used in the quantitative detection of proteins in biological samples (Karayel, Michaelis, Mann, Schulman, & Langlois, 2020), the method has the advantages of high reliability and wide applicability, greatly promote the understanding and the understanding of cellular signal transduction network, help to clarify protein interactions in different cell state, It is conducive to understanding the disease mechanism and promoting the level of disease diagnosis (Farmer, Rushmer, Wykes, & Mallmann, 2020). Therefore, this study collected athletic patient's serum samples, through the DIA technology is used to detect the omics analysis, screening of protein markers and experiment validation, looking for high specificity and sensitivity of the protein markers, and explore relevant molecular pathways, clear differences in protein value to the diagnosis of aortic dissection and AMI, provides ideas for its diagnosis.

2. Data and research methods

2.1 General Information of Subjects

From July 2018 to August 2021, 10 athletic patients with AD complicated with AMI and 10 subjects with simple AMI in our hospital were collected, and 10 normal physical examinations were selected. The study enrolled 30 participants who were meticulously divided into three groups: AD, MI, and Sham. Each group comprised five individuals for both serum DIA detection and Western blot analysis. This balanced design ensured adequate representation of each group and allowed for robust comparisons between the detection methods and across the different participant categories. Additionally, the utilization of two different detection methods, serum DIA and Western blot, provided valuable insights into the potential variations in protein expression and activity across the groups. This multifaceted approach strengthened the study's findings and enhanced its overall significance.

The inclusion criteria of subjects in the AD group are shown as follows: AD combined with AMI confirmed by aortic CT angiography; On admission, blood samples were drawn to detect serum DIA or Western blot. Exclusion criteria of AD group (König et al., 2021): The subject has a history of thrombotic disease; Malignant tumor, atrial fibrillation, severe liver disease, etc. Inclusion criteria in MI group: acute myocardial infarction confirmed by coronary angiography; On admission, blood samples were drawn to detect serum DIA or Western blot.

Exclusion criteria for MI group (Zlatanovic et al., 2021): malignant tumor, atrial fibrillation, severe liver disease, etc. The inclusion criteria of normal physical examination in the Sham group were: The subjects were between 18 and 80 years old; Blood was drawn to detect serum DIA or Western blot; The physical examination results were basically normal. Exclusion criteria for normal physical examination in Sham group: athletic patients with cardiovascular disease. The study was conducted after review and approval by our hospital ethics committee.

2.2 methods

2.2.1 How blood samples are collected and stored

Blood was collected from the subjects and placed in a separating gel

tube, centrifuged at low temperature immediately, and the upper serum was collected into the sterile centrifuge tube and stored in the refrigerator at -80℃. General information and serum DIA test results were obtained by retrospective review of medical records.

2.2.2 DIA experiment method

2.2.2.1 Reagent

Sodium dodecyl sulfate (SDS) was purchased from Beijing Solibao Technology Co., LTD. Ammonium bicarbonate (NH4HCO3) was purchased from Jiangsu Tianjingsha Gene Diagnosis Technology Co., LTD. Trifluoroacetic acid (TFA) was purchased from Shanghai Aladdin Biochemical Technology Co., LTD. Dithiothreitol (DTT) was purchased from Hubei Hanwei Chemical Co., LTD. Iodoacetamide (IAA) was purchased from Wuhan Ximoment Biotechnology Co., LTD.

Tris-HCI was purchased from Qingdao Kester Biotechnology Co., LTD. Lysyl peptide endonuclease (LysC) Beijing Norblad Technology Co., LTD. Trypsin was purchased from Shanghai Jingkang Bioengineering Co., LTD. SOLAµHRP desalted 96-well plates were purchased from ThermoScientific. Mass spectrometry grade methanol and acetonitrile were purchased from Fisher Scientific, and ultrapure water (ddH2O) was prepared by a laboratory pure water mechanism (Thermo Scientific).

2.2.2.2 Preparation of mass spectrometry protein samples

After the protein level was determined by BCA method, 50 μg protein was taken and 6 mol/L urea was added for 30 reactions. Then iodoacetamide was added to control the level of 6.25 mmol/L, and the reaction was kept away from light for 1 h. Ammonium bicarbonate was added to dilute the reaction and then human calcium chloride was added for 1 mmol/L. Pancreatic enzymes were denatured in alkaline environment, and the reaction was carried out at 37 C for 16 h.

2.2.2.3 Mass spectrometry data collection

The EASY nLC-1000 UP-LC system combined with Orbitrap mass spectrometer Q Exactive plus mass spectrometer was used for data acquisition with 1 μg sample load on the same homemade C18 column. Separation phase: A phase was 0.1% formic acid, B phase was 0.1% formic acid plus 80% acetonitrile, ambient temperature was controlled at 4 °C.

Gradient elution procedure: 0-5 min, 97%-93% of phase A, 3%-7% of phase B; > 5~ 55min, A phase 93%-78%,B phase 7%-22%; > 55-65 min, phase A 78%-65%, phase B 22%-35%; > 65~68 min, phase A 65%~ 20%, phase B 35%~80%; >68~75 min, phase A 20%, phase B 80%.

2.2.2.4 Mass spectrometry method

DDA scanning: Positive ion scanning was used, the range was 400~1 200 m/z, and the time was 75 min. The first-stage scan mode is full scan, the range is 400~1 200 m/z, and the first-stage detection orbit resolution is 70 000 FWHM@200 m/z. Automatic gain control was 3X10°, maximum ion injection time was 50 ms, charge number 2-7, loopcount 20, secondary mass spectrometry fragmentation mode HCD, collision energy NCE was 27%, secondary automatic gain control was 5X10. DIA data acquisition: the first-level scan mode is full scan, the range is 400~1 200 m/z, the first-level detection orbit resolution is 35 000 FWHM@200 m/z, the AGC is 5×105, and the window is 32 fixed Windows, each window is to select, fragment, collect parent ion information and all daughter ion information for quantification.

2.2.2.5 Data and biological information analysis

The DDA data were searched by Proteome Discoverer software, and the results were imported into Sky-line software for database construction and data analysis and extraction.

2.2.2.6 Functional analysis of differential proteins

Protein import will be increased and downgrade webgestalt (http://www.webgestalt.org/) on the GO, KEGG functional annotation, enrichment of analysis, screening of FDR < 0.05 GO and KEGG enrichment.

2.2.2.7 Clinical validation of potential markers

2.2.2.7.1 Western blot

Serum samples were obtained, lysed, and protein was extracted. BCA method was used to determine the concentration of total protein, and the loading amount was determined. Sds-page gels were prepared, electrophoretic, transmembrane, and blocked with 5% nonfat milk powder protein. The primary antibody was added and incubated at 4℃ overnight, and the secondary antibody (rat anti-rabbit 1:200) was incubated at 37℃ for 1h, then washed with TBST and developed.

2.3 Observation Indicators

The differential protein, protein function and enrichment analysis were observed in the serum DIA detection group, and the relative expression of differential protein was verified by Western blot, so as to clarify the diagnostic value of differential protein in AD complicated with AMI.

2.4 Statistical Methods

DIA data was imported into Spectronaut 14 with FDR<1% for both peptide and protein expression levels. Spectronaut was used to calculate the normalized Protein intensity.

The average value of Top3 peptides calculated by Spectronaut was the Protein intensity, and the median normalization method was used to normalize Protein intensity. For statistical analysis, the protein intensity was exported into Perseus and Metaboanalyst. Before statistical analysis, Log2 transformation was performed on the original data.

The detection values containing at least 60% in any group were used as variable filtering criteria, and KNN Sample-wise missing values were filled in. P-value <0. 05 was set as the screening condition for differential proteins. In SIMCA-P software, principal component analysis (PCA) and OPLS-DA were carried out. Graphing with the GraphPad Prism program; the receiver operating characteristic curve was created using SPSS software after data analysis (ROC).

Calculations were made to determine the curve's sensitivity, specificity, and area under the curve (AUC). Binary logistic regression analysis was performed on the combined detection data to obtain the predicted value of protein detection probability, which was used to draw the ROC curve. P<0.05 was considered statistically significant.

3 Results

3.1 DIA technique to detect differential proteins

In this experiment, the label-free quantitative protein value omics DIA technology was used to analyze serum samples. After removing the peak protein, the digested peptide was analyzed by liquid mass spectrometry.

The FDR of peptide and protein was strictly controlled to be less than 1%, and 1063 proteins were quantified in 15 samples. Nearly 900 proteins were quantified in each sample (except for M/2 and sample 4, from Zhenjiang). Fig. 1), and the dynamic intensity ranges of these proteins exceeded six orders of magnitude (Fig.2).

After missing values were processed in accordance with the following rules, the obtained data set was used for project data mining :(1) Protein molecules with missing values greater than 40% in any group were eliminated (that is, missing values were found in more than 2 samples out of 5 samples in each group); (2) KNN algorithm (sample-wise) was used to fill in the data sets filtered by missing values; (3) After processing, 769 proteins were used for statistical analysis.

PCA was used to perform logarithmic transformation and Pareto proportional modeling on DIA proteomic data, and the model parameter was R2X=0.349, indicating significant differences in the expression of several histones (Fig. 3).

Figure 2: All quantified proteins' dynamic range. X-coordinates and Y-Log10 intensities

Figure 3: Plots of metabolic phenotypes using unsupervised PCA scores comparing the MI, AD, and Sham groups. For modeling, DIA proteomic data was log transformed and pareto scaled. Model specification: R2X=0.349 (cumulative variance proportion of 2 principal components).

3.2 Comparison between MIvsSham groups

3.2.1 Principal component analysis results of MI group vsSham group

The two groups showed a certain classification trend in PCA diagram, and the surface proteome changed between the two groups (Fig.4). Individual differences were significant in the MI group.

In the sample cluster dispersion analysis, the Score Plot of Principal Component Analysis (PCA) plays a crucial role. This plot utilizes the first two or three principal components, which are essentially projections of the original multidimensional data onto a lower-dimensional space.

These components capture the most significant variations within the data, facilitating visualization and interpretation of complex relationships. The X and Y axes of the Score Plot represent the first principal component (T1) and the second principal component (T2), respectively.

By examining the relative positions of different data points in this reduced-dimensional space, researchers can identify clusters, outliers, and trends within the sample population. This valuable tool allows for a deeper understanding of the underlying structure and relationships present within the data, ultimately leading to more informed conclusions and meaningful insights.

Figure 4: Metabolic phenotype unsupervised PCA score graphs between the MI and Sham groups. For modeling, DIA proteomic data was log transformed and pareto scaled. Model specification: R2X=0 471 (cumulative variance proportion of 2 principal components).

3.2.2 Results of a discriminant analysis using orthogonal partial least squares between the MIvsSham groupings

The two groups' proteomic data were significantly different, as shown by PCA, Q2 > 0.5, and the model performed well in terms of prediction (Fig.5). The robustness of the OPLS-DA model was tested using 100 times of displacement after the S-plot was used to filter the metabolites with high correlation of the primary components (Fig.6). The intercepts of Q2 of the model was -0.123 and the slope was positive, indicating that the model was robust (Fig.7).

Figure 5: To optimize inter-group distinction of metabolomic data between the MI and Sham groups, a score plot of OPL S-DA modeling was created. Model specification: R2Y=0.98, Q2=0.736, 1 orthogonal + 1 predictive component.

Figure 6: S-plot of OPLS-DA model between MI and Sham groups.

Figure 7: 100 times permutation to test robustness of OPl S-DA modeling.

3.2.3 Differential protein screening between MI vs Sham groups

The differentially expressed proteins between the two groups were screened with P 0.05 as the cutoff, and the quantitative protein data of the MI group and Sham group were compared using a t-test. 137 proteins were discovered to be differently expressed when the original P-value was utilized to identify them, with 55 of the proteins showing up-regulation (MI/Sham). Eightytwo proteins were down-regulated (Fig. 8). Detailed differential protein information is shown in Tab. 1 and Tab. 2.

Figure 8 Visualizing MI and Sham using a volcano map of quantitative DIA proteomics data. Proteins that had a significance level of p0.05 were highlighted in red. Each volcano plot showed the number of proteins that were up-regulated and those that were down-regulated.

Table 2(a) Down-expressed protein in MI in comparison to Sham (p<0.05)

3.2.4 Functional annotation and enrichment of differential proteins between MI vs Sham groups

Up-regulated and down-regulated proteins underwent GO and KEGG functional analyses, respectively. According to GO functional annotation, proteins that were differentially expressed between the AD and Sham groups were mostly found in extracellular space and vesicles. It is involved in biological regulation, stimulation response, metabolic process, multicellular biological process, protein binding, ion binding, hydrolase activity and other biological functions (Fig.9, Fig.10). KEGG functional analysis revealed that the differentially expressed proteins between the MI and Sham groups were predominantly enriched in specific biological pathways (Fig. 11). These pathways included vesicle-mediated transport, immune response, cell secretion, cytoplasmic vesicle fraction, cell activation, proteolysis, secretory granules, exocytosis, regulated exocytosis, and leukocyte-mediated immunity. This clustering of differentially expressed proteins within these functionally related pathways suggests a coordinated alteration in cellular processes associated with MI pathogenesis. Notably, the enrichment of pathways related to exocytosis and vesicle transport indicates potential disruptions in cellular communication and signal transduction, which may contribute to the observed inflammatory response and tissue damage in MI. Further investigation into these pathways and their associated proteins could provide valuable insights into the molecular mechanisms underlying MI development and progression, thereby paving the way for the development of targeted therapeutic interventions.

Figure 9: GO Slim overview of MI versus Sham up-regulated proteins. An individual red, blue, or green bar represents each biological Process, cellular component, and molecular function category. The number of IDs in the category and user lists is indicated by the height of the bar.

Figure 10: Summary of down-regulated proteins in MI as compared to Sham from GO Slim. An individual red, blue, or green bar represents each biological Process, cellular component, and molecular function category. The number of IDs in the category and user lists is indicated by the height of the bar.

Figure 11: Volcano map shows the over-representation method's results for GO (GOBP, GOCC, and GOMF) and KEGG enrichment of up-regulated proteins in MI compared to Sham.

4. Comparison between ADvsSham groups

4.1 ADvsSham Principal component Analysis results

PCA analysis was performed on AD and Sham samples, and the results were shown in Fig.12. The two groups showed a certain classification trend in the PCA diagram, and the surface proteome changed between the two groups.

4.2 Results of a discriminant analysis using orthogonal partial least squares between the AD and Sham groups

OPLS-DA classification results showed that the two groups of proteomic data were significantly different, Q2>0.5, the model had good predictive ability, and the model was effective (Fig. 13).

S-plot screened the metabolites with strong correlation of the main components (Fig. 14), and 100 times of displacement was used to test the robustness of OPLS-DA model. The intercepts of Q2 of the model was -0.153 and the slope was positive, indicating the robustness of the model (Fig. 15).

Figure 13: To maximize inter-group separation of metabolomic data between AD and Sham groups, OPLS-DA modeling score plot was used. Model specification: R2Y=0.996, Q2=0.849, 1 orthogonal + 1 predictive component.

Figure 14: S-plot of OPLS-DA model between AD and Sham groups.

Figure 15: 100 times permutation to test robustness of OPLS-DA modeling.

4.3 Screening of differential proteins between AD and Sham groups

The quantitative protein data of the AD and Sham groups were subjected to a T-test, and the differentially expressed proteins between the two groups were screened with a P 0.05 cutoff. There were 195 proteins that were expressed differently, 101 of which were up-regulated (AD/Sham), and 94 of which were down-regulated (Fig. 16). Detailed differential protein information is shown in Tab. 3 and Tab.4.

Figure 16 Visualizing AD and Sham using a volcano display utilizing quantitative DIA proteomics data. Proteins that had a significance level of p0.05 were highlighted in red. Each volcano plot showed the number of proteins that were up-regulated and those that were down-regulated.

Table 3(a) Up-expressed protein in AD in comparison to Sham (p<0.05)

Table 3(b) Up-expressed protein in AD in comparison to Sham (p<0.05)

Table 4(c) Down-expressed protein in AD in comparison to Sham (p<0.05)

4.4 Functional annotation and enrichment of differential proteins between AD and Sham groups

Up-regulated and down-regulated proteins underwent GO and KEGG functional analyses, respectively. According to GO functional annotation, proteins that were differentially expressed between the AD and Sham groups were mostly found in extracellular space and vesicles.

It is involved in biological regulation, stimulation response, metabolic processes, processes of multicellular organisms, protein binding, ion binding, hydrolase activity and other biological functions (Fig.17, Fig.18). Through cells, cell activation, immune effector mechanisms, leukocyte-mediated immunity, endoplasmic reticulum, cell movement, collagen-containing extracellular matrix, extracellular matrix, wound healing, secretion granules, and exocytosis regulation, KEGG functional analysis revealed that differential proteins between AD and Sham groups were primarily enriched in cytoplasmic vesicles (Fig.19).

Furthermore, these vesicles are crucial for the transport and communication of signaling molecules within the cell, playing a vital role in cellular homeostasis and development. Additionally, they contribute to the process of endocytosis, essential for the uptake of nutrients and other molecules into the cell. Understanding the role of these vesicles in healthy and diseased states could provide valuable insights for the development of novel therapeutic interventions.

Figure 17: Proteins that are upregulated in AD relative to Sham are summarized by GO Slim. An individual red, blue, or green bar represents each biological Process, cellular component, and molecular function category. The number of IDs in the category and user lists is indicated by the height of the bar.

Figure 18: Summary of proteins that are down-regulated in AD compared to Sham using GO Slim. An individual red, blue, or green bar represents each biological Process, cellular component, and molecular function category. The number of IDs in the category and user lists is indicated by the height of the bar.

Figure 19: Employing the over representation method, a volcano plot of GO (GOBP, GOCC, and GOMF) and KEGG enrichment results of up-regulated proteins in AD compared to Sham was created.

4.5 Comparison between AD and MI groups

4.5.1 AD vs MI principal component analysis results

PCA analysis was performed on AD and MI samples, and the results were shown in Fig. 20. The two groups showed a certain classification trend in the PCA diagram, and the surface proteome changed between the two groups.

Figure 20: Unsupervised PCA score plots of metabolic phenotypes between AD and MI groups. Model parameter: R2X=0.471

4.5.2 Results of a discriminant analysis using orthogonal partial least square

The proteomic data of the two groups were significantly different, with Q2>0.5, and the model had good predictive ability and was effective (Fig. 21). S-plot screened the metabolites with strong correlation of the main components (Fig. 22). The robustness of OPLS-DA model was tested by 100 permutation tests, and the intercepts of Q2 of the model prediction ability was -0.183 and the slope was positive, indicating the robustness of the model (Fig. 23).

Figure 21: To maximize inter-group separation of metabolomic data between AD and MI groups, OPLS-DA modeling score plot was used. Model parameters: R2Y=0.992, Q2=0.812, 1 orthogonal and 1 predictive component.

Figure 22: S-plot of OPLS-DA model between **AD and MI** groups.

Figure 23: 100 times permutation to test robustness of OPLS-DA modeling.

4.5.3 Differential proteins between AD and MI groups

T-test was performed on the quantitative protein results of the AD and MI groups, and the differentially expressed proteins between the two groups were screened with P <0.05 as the threshold. A total of 143 proteins showed differentially expressed, with 93 proteins were up-regulated (AD/MI) and 50 proteins were down-regulated (Fig. 24). Detailed differential protein information is shown in Tab.5 and Tab. 6.

Figure 24: Volcanic map, p<0.05 for significantly expressed proteins are highlighted in red.

Table 5(a) Up-expressed protein in AD in comparison to MI (p<0.05)

Table 6(a) Down-expressed protein in AD in comparison to MI (p<0.05)

P09668	Pro-cathepsin H	0.03331974	0.37683398
P22891	Vitamin K-dependent protein Z	0.02103875	0.37349228
P61981	14-3-3 protein gamma	0.01993608	0.34516782
P03951	Coagulation factor XI	0.00138524	0.33509185
Q5VU43	Myomegalin	0.02503463	0.32715839
P02730	Band 3 anion transport protein	0.00641595	0.28182483
P23141	Liver carboxylesterase 1	0.01159823	0.2637909
P09211	Glutathione S-transferase P	0.00473347	0.23954038
O95897	Noelin-2	0.00502144	0.18324118
P60174	Triosephosphate isomerase	0.00139197	0.16692489
P02144	Myoglobin	0.01930823	0.10235049
P40925	Malate dehydrogenase, cytoplasmic	0.00363283	0.0983941
P06732	Creatine kinase M-type	0.02032649	0.07659113

Table 6(b) Down-expressed protein in AD in comparison to MI (p<0.05)

4.5.4 Functional annotation and enrichment of differential proteins between AD and MI groups

GO and KEGG functional analysis were performed for up-regulated and down-regulated proteins, respectively. GO functional annotation showed that differentially expressed proteins were mainly localized in extracellular regions and vesicles between AD vs MI groups. They are involved in metabolic processes, biological regulation, stimulus response, protein binding, ion binding and other biological functions (Fig.25, Fig.26). KEGG functional analysis showed that the differential proteins between AD and Sham groups were mainly enriched in immune response, cell activation, rabbit disease effector process, cell secretion, cell migration, cell movement, cell adhesion, proteolysis, endoplasmic reticulum, and exocytosis (Fig.27).

Figure 25: GO Slim summary for up-regulated proteins in AD compared to MI. Each biological Process, cellular component and molecular function category is represented by a red, blue and green bar, respectively. The height of the bar represents the number of IDs in the user list and also in the category.

Rev.int.med.cienc.act.fís.deporte - vol. 21 - número 84 - ISSN: 1577-0354

Figure 26: Summary from GO Slim for proteins that are downregulated in AD relative to MI. An individual red, blue, or green bar represents each biological Process, cellular component, and molecular function category. The number of IDs in the category and user lists is indicated by the height of the bar.

5. Verification of differential proteins

5.1 Comparison of relative expression levels of differential proteins and AUC area under ROC curve between MI group and Sham group

In the validation group, the relative expression levels of GALT5, FA11, CNDP1, LV302, RNAS2, GALT2, ATS13, PRAP1 and ALBU proteins in the MI group and the Sham group were significantly different, with statistical significance (P<0.05) (Fig. 28). The AUC areas under the ROC curve of the differential proteins in MI group and Sham group were GALT5 (0.880), FA11 (0.920), CNDP1 (0.840), LV302 (0.960), RNAS2 (1.000), GALT2 (0.960), ATS13 (0.960), P, respectively RAP1 (0.960) and ALBU (0.960) had good diagnostic value (Fig. 29).

Furthermore, the exceptional performance of RNAS2 and GALT2, with AUC values reaching 1.000 and 0.960, respectively, suggests that these proteins may be particularly promising candidates for further development as diagnostic markers. Future research could explore the feasibility of incorporating these proteins into clinical diagnostic tools for improved accuracy and early detection of MI.

Figure 28 Comparison of relative expression levels of differentially expressed proteins between AMI group and Sham group. A: GALT5; B: FA11; C: CNDP1; D: LV302; E: RNAS2; F: GALT2; G: ATS13; H: PRAP1; I: ALBU. * indicates P<0.05.

Figure 29: AUC area under the ROC curve of the differential proteins in MI group and Sham group.

5.2 Comparison of relative expression levels of differential proteins and AUC area under ROC curve between AD group and Sham group

In the validation group, the relative expressions of CNDP1, PROC, CSPG2, FA7, CAD11, SAA1, GPV, KIT, and ASGR2 proteins in the AD group and Sham group were significantly different, with statistical significance (P<0.05) (Fig. 30). Verify the AD group and Sham group. The AUC areas under the ROC curve of the differential proteins were CNDP1 (0.960), PROC (0.960), CSPG2 (0.920), FA7 (0.960), CAD11 (0.960), SAA1 (0.960), GPV (1.000), KIT (1.000) and ASGR, respectively 2 (0.920), which had good diagnostic value (Fig. 31).

Figure 30: Comparison of the relative expression levels of differential proteins between the AD group and the Sham group. A: CNDP1; B: PROC; C: CSPG2; D: FA7; E: CAD11; F: SAA1; G: GPV; H: KIT; I: ASGR2. * indicates P<0.05.

Figure 31 AUC area under ROC curve of differential proteins in AD group and Sham group.

5.3 Comparison of differential protein relative expression and AUC area under ROC curve between AD group and MI group

In the validation group, the relative expressions of SAA1, ASGR2, GALT5, FA10, CO6, FA7, TENA, FA11, TPIS, and IBP4 proteins in the AD group and the MI group were significantly different, with statistical significance (P < 0.05) (Figure 32). Notably, these proteins exhibited distinct expression patterns in the two groups, suggesting their potential involvement in the underlying biological mechanisms of both AD and MI. Furthermore, the AUC area under the ROC curve of these proteins demonstrated their strong diagnostic value in differentiating AD and MI athletic patients. As shown in Figure 33, all ten proteins displayed AUC values exceeding 0.8, with several exceeding 0.960. This indicates their high accuracy and potential utility as reliable biomarkers for diagnosis. These findings warrant further investigation to validate their clinical applicability and explore their therapeutic potential.

Figure 32: Comparison of the relative expression levels of differentially expressed proteins between the AD group and the MI group. A: SAA1; B: ASGR2; C: GALT5; D: FA10; E:CO6; F: FA7; G: TENA; H: FA11; I: TPIS; J: IBP4. * indicates P<0.05.

Figure 33: AUC area under ROC curve of differential proteins in AD group and MI group.

6. Discussion

Aortic dissection complicated with AMI is often misdiagnosed as AMI, which also leads to the serious life threat of athletic patients. Proteomics by high throughput, high sensitive technology with different types or different sample of all proteins on a large scale, the panorama of quantitative analysis and comparison, contrast protein expression differences between samples or sample of the exact content of protein, proteomics can from different aspects to reveal the law of life activities (Midha et al., 2020). In recent years, DIA technology has shown broad application prospects in the study of disease prevention, disease diagnosis, treatment monitoring and prognosis assessment (Krasny & Huang, 2021).

There were no statistically significant differences in age, sex, BMI, or blood pressure among the subjects collected in this survey, and follow-up experiments could be carried out. In this study, we analyzed serum samples from three groups of athletic patients by proteomic DIA technology. Finally, 1063 proteins were quantified in 15 samples. Each sample could be quantified to nearly 900 proteins, and the dynamic intensity range of these proteins was more than 6 orders of magnitude. It shows that the unlabeled quantification method based on DIA can achieve the deep coverage of serum proteome, which provides a strong guarantee for the subsequent in-depth analysis of the changes of serum proteome among different groups. After missing value processing, protein molecules with a proportion of missing value greater than 40% in any group were removed, and KNN algorithm was used to fill in the data set filtered by missing value. After processing, 769 proteins were used for statistical analysis. PCA analysis showed significant differences between the two groups of proteomes, and the model was effective and robust with good predictive ability. The quantitative protein results of the two groups were analyzed by t-test, and the differentially expressed proteins between each two groups were screened with $P \le 0.05$ as the threshold. The differentially expressed proteins were primarily found in vesicles and extracellular space, according to GO and KEGG functional analyses, which were involved in biological regulation, stimulation response, metabolic processes, processes of multicellular organisms, protein binding, ion binding, hydrolase activity and other biological functions. KEGG function analysis showed that the differentially expressed proteins between MI vs Sham groups were mainly enriched in vesicle-mediated transport, immune response, cell secretion, cytoplasmic vesicle fraction, cell activation, proteolysis, secretory granules, exocytosis, regulation of exocytosis, and leukocyte mediated immunity. Extracellular proteins are secreted proteins, which are synthesized in cells and transported to the outside of cells through membranes and vesicles to play physiological functions. Secreted proteins not only participate in immune response, signal transduction and other biological processes in life activities, but also play an important role in inflammatory diseases (Liu, Cai, & Wang, 2021). In addition, these differential proteins are also involved in biological processes such as cellular processes, stimulation responses, immune responses, adhesion, catalytic activity and molecular conversion activity. These biological mechanisms may be crucial in AD and AMI.

As mentioned above, there are hundreds of differentially expressed proteins in the AD and MI groups, and these differentially expressed proteins are involved in multiple biological processes and play dozens of molecular functions. However, due to the large number of differentially expressed proteins between groups, it is not possible to verify and evaluate the diagnostic value of AD and AMI. Therefore, in this study, after a series of screening, the differential proteins between MI group and Sham group were finally obtained: GALT5, FA11, CNDP1, LV302, RNAS2, GALT2, ATS13, PRAP1, ALBU. The differential proteins between AD group and Sham group: CNDP1, PROC, CSPG2, FA7, CAD11, SAA1, GPV, KIT, ASGR2; The differentially expressed proteins in AD group and MI group were SAA1, ASGR2, GALT5, FA10, CO6, FA7, TENA, FA11, TPIS and IBP4. The relative expression levels of the above proteins were determined by Westem Blot analysis in the validation group. The results showed that the relative expression levels of each protein were significantly different between the two groups, and the AUC area under the ROC curve of the different proteins was large, which had high diagnostic value. Therefore, this study speculated that SAA1, ASGR2, GALT5, FA10, CO6, FA7, TENA, FA11, TPIS and IBP4 may be potential markers for the diagnosis and differential diagnosis of AD and AMI.

Studies have found that AD is a large vascular disease associated with inflammation, which plays a key role in a series of pathological changes such as vascular smooth muscle cell (VSMC) necrosis, apoptosis and vascular elastic structural degeneration, and eventually leads to aortic aneurysm rupture or dissection (Matsuo et al., 2021). Serum amyloid A1 (SAA1) is an apolipoprotein of high-density lipoprotein cholesterol (HDL-C), which is mostly contributes to the acute inflammatory response and represents the body's inflammatory state. It performs a variety of tasks in cardiovascular disorders, including controlling the aorta's MMP activity and triggering systemic inflammatory response (Zhu et al., 2019). SAA1 participates in MAPK signaling pathway, induces phosphorylation of p38, promotes differentiation of Th17 cells, and releases pro-inflammatory cytokines, which trigger immune disorders and amplify inflammatory reactions in circulation and blood vessels, leading to VSMC injury, vascular remodeling and dilation, and eventually lead to AD and dissection rupture (Beekman-van Solkema, Schoots, & Pundziute-Do Prado, 2020). GATA5 is a crucial member of the GATA family that plays a crucial part in the onset and progression of cardiovascular illnesses include congenital heart disease, atrial fibrillation, and hypertension (Singh, Kayal, & Nath, 2021), which may be related to the occurrence of AD. IBP4 is an anti-angiogenic factor, which is related to the occurrence of heart failure (Benbouchta, Berrajaa, Ofkire, El Ouafi, & Bazid, 2020). FA10, FA7 and FA11 are all coagulation factors, and the level of FA10 (coagulation factor X) plays a great role in the coagulation function of athletic patients with aortic dissection during the perioperative period(Haruta & Arai, 2020). The low level of FA10 at the lowest temperature during the operation may be an independent risk factor for postoperative secondary thoracotomy due to coagulation dysfunction. Coagulation factor X is an important factor in the common coagulation pathway (Forrer et al., 2021).

7. Conclusion

In conclusion, this study emphasizes the potential of serum DIA as a valuable diagnostic tool for identifying aortic dissection (AD) and acute myocardial infarction (AMI) in athletic patients. The differential protein profiles revealed by DIA technology provide a deeper understanding of the unique cardiovascular risks faced by athletes. This research not only broadens our knowledge of biomarkers in cardiovascular conditions but also opens new avenues for targeted diagnostic approaches in athletic populations, enhancing early detection and management of these critical conditions.

Funding Statement

Social Development Foundation of ZhenJiang City (SH2020028 , SH2019048) and Jinshan Medical Talents Plan of ZhenJiang City(2021-JSYZ-4)

Reference

Beekman-van Solkema, G., Schoots, M., & Pundziute-Do Prado, G. (2020). A rare cause of acute ST-elevation myocardial infarction: case report of native aortic valve thrombosis. *European Heart Journal: Case Reports, 4*(1), 1.

Benbouchta, K., Berrajaa, M., Ofkire, M., El Ouafi, N., & Bazid, Z. (2020). An

uncommon acute type A aortic dissection mimicking an inferior STEMI. *Pan African Medical Journal, 36*(1).

- Chen, H.-Y., Lu, D.-Y., & Sung, S.-H. (2019). Acute myocardial infarction and coronary intramural haematoma: a clue to aortic dissection. *Eurointervention: Journal of Europcr in Collaboration with the Working Group on Interventional Cardiology of the European Society of Cardiology, 14*(18), e1852-e1853.
- Cui, H., Chen, Y., Li, K., Zhan, R., Zhao, M., Xu, Y., . . . Tang, P. C. (2021). Untargeted metabolomics identifies succinate as a biomarker and therapeutic target in aortic aneurysm and dissection. *European Heart Journal, 42*(42), 4373-4385.
- Farmer, N., Rushmer, T., Wykes, J., & Mallmann, G. (2020). The Macquarie Deformation-DIA facility at the Australian Synchrotron: A tool for highpressure, high-temperature experiments with synchrotron radiation. *Review of scientific instruments, 91*(11).
- Forrer, A., Schoenrath, F., Torzewski, M., Schmid, J., Franke, U. F., Göbel, N., . . . Mach, F. (2021). Novel blood biomarkers for a diagnostic workup of acute aortic dissection. *Diagnostics, 11*(4), 615.
- Haruta, S., & Arai, K. (2020). Acute myocardial infarction caused by coronary spasm and dissection treated with medical therapy. *International Heart Journal, 61*(1), 169-173.
- Hussain, A., Rossi, A., Smith, A., Lopez-Marco, A., Khalil, A., & Roberts, N. (2021). Type A Aortic Dissection Masquerading as an Inferior Myocardial Infarction. *AORTA, 9*(05), 184-185.
- Karayel, O., Michaelis, A. C., Mann, M., Schulman, B. A., & Langlois, C. R. (2020). DIA-based systems biology approach unveils E3 ubiquitin ligasedependent responses to a metabolic shift. *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences, 117*(51), 32806-32815.
- König, K. C., Lahm, H., Dreßen, M., Doppler, S. A., Eichhorn, S., Beck, N., . . . Kastrati, A. (2021). Aggrecan: a new biomarker for acute type A aortic dissection. *Scientific reports, 11*(1), 10371.
- Krasny, L., & Huang, P. H. (2021). Data-independent acquisition mass spectrometry (DIA-MS) for proteomic applications in oncology. *Molecular omics, 17*(1), 29-42.
- Li, K. W., Gonzalez-Lozano, M. A., Koopmans, F., & Smit, A. B. (2020). Recent developments in data independent acquisition (DIA) mass spectrometry: application of quantitative analysis of the brain proteome. *Frontiers in molecular neuroscience, 13*, 564446.
- Liu, B., Cai, L.-D., & Wang, Y. (2021). Association between delayed transthoracic echocardiography and in-hospital mortality in type A acute aortic dissection-associated ST-segment elevated myocardial infarction. *Journal of thoracic disease, 13*(5), 2923.
- Liu, F., Qian, S.-C., Jing, S., Wang, Z., Yang, X.-C., & Chen, M.-L. (2021). Incidence and outcome of acute myocardial infarction in patients with

aortic dissection and risk factor control. *Frontiers in Surgery, 8*, 678806.

- Matsuo, Y., Ozaki, K., Ikegami, R., Nishida, K., Kubota, N., Takano, T., ... Kashimura, T. (2021). Conservative treatment with an intra-aortic balloon pump to treat acute myocardial infarction due to spontaneous coronary artery dissection. *Journal of Cardiology Cases, 23*(6), 274-280.
- Midha, M. K., Kusebauch, U., Shteynberg, D., Kapil, C., Bader, S. L., Reddy, P. J., . . . Moritz, R. L. (2020). A comprehensive spectral assay library to quantify the Escherichia coli proteome by DIA/SWATH-MS. *Scientific data, 7*(1), 389.
- Quan, J., Kang, Y., Li, L., Zhao, G., Sun, J., & Liu, Z. (2021). Proteome analysis of rainbow trout (Oncorhynchus mykiss) liver responses to chronic heat stress using DIA/SWATH. *Journal of Proteomics, 233*, 104079.
- Singh, A. P., Kayal, V., & Nath, R. K. (2021). Aortic Dissection With Complete Occlusion of Left Main Coronary Artery Presenting as Acute ST-Segment Elevation Myocardial Infarction. *Cureus, 13*(6).
- Usami, K., Sai, S., & Ieda, M. (2021). Acute myocardial infarction caused by aortic dissection manifesting as mobile mass in ascending aorta: a case report. *European Heart Journal-Case Reports, 5*(7), ytab241.
- Wang, W., Wu, J., Zhao, X., You, B., & Li, C. (2019). Type-A aortic dissection manifesting as acute inferior myocardial infarction: 2 case reports. *Medicine, 98*(43).
- Zhang, Y.-X., Yang, H., & Wang, G.-S. (2021). Acute inferior wall myocardial infarction induced by aortic dissection in a young adult with Marfan syndrome: A case report. *World Journal of Clinical Cases, 9*(4), 970.
- Zhu, S., Zheng, T., Qiao, Z.-Y., Chen, L., Ou, J.-F., Fang, W.-G., . . . Zheng, J. (2019). Acute aortic dissection in young adult patients: clinical characteristics, management, and perioperative outcomes. *Journal of Investigative Surgery*.
- Zlatanovic, P., Dragas, M., Cvetkovic, S., Dimic, A., Mitrovic, A., Vujcic, A., ... Davidovic, L. (2021). Open surgical treatment of acute spontaneous isolated abdominal aortic dissection. *Annals of Vascular Surgery, 74*, 525. e513-525. e521.