

动物内源褪黑素调控生物节律的研究进展

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摘要: 内源褪黑素对人类和其他哺乳动物的节律行为具有调控功能。生物节律是自然进化赋予生命的基本特征之一, 生物体的生命活动受到生物节律的控制与影响。在哺乳动物中, 节律调控中心是松果体, 其主要功能是合成和分泌褪黑素。褪黑素广泛参与生物体节律行为的调节, 本文从褪黑素的产生和作用机制, 分别阐述褪黑素对昼夜节律行为和多种年节律行为的调控作用, 同时明确褪黑素与生物钟及神经内分泌系统的直接作用和反馈互动的复杂集合, 进一步揭示褪黑素调控生物节律的重要作用, 以期褪黑素的基础研究以及未来探究生物体的生物钟内源性发生机制提供参考。

关键词: 褪黑素; 生物钟; 哺乳动物; 昼夜节律; 年节律

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Research Progress of Endogenous Melatonin Regulating Biological Rhythm in Animals

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Abstract: Melatonin is produced to regulate the rhythmic behaviour of humans and other mammals. Biological rhythm represents a fundamental aspect of life and has been conferred by natural evolution. The activities that organisms perform during their lifetime are controlled and influenced by their biological rhythms. The pineal gland, located in mammals, serves as the regulatory centre for these rhythms and is responsible for synthesizing and secreting melatonin. Melatonin has an important role to play in the rhythmic behaviour of organisms. Previous analyses have mainly emphasised melatonin's pivotal role in circadian and reproductive annual rhythms, while neglecting its contribution to other annual rhythmic processes. This study aims to shed light on the regulation of melatonin in both circadian rhythm and annual rhythmic behaviour, focusing on the production and mechanisms involved. At the same time, it elucidates the intricate network of direct and feedback interactions that link melatonin to the biological clock and the neuroendocrine system. Additionally, it highlights melatonin's significant role in regulating biological rhythms, thereby serving as a

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point of reference for fundamental research on melatonin and future investigations into the endogenous biological clock mechanism in organisms. As mental disorders, such as circadian disorders, depression, and anxiety, become more common, studies have indicated a close correlation between melatonin secretion and these conditions. Consequently, it is imperative to explore the exact process by which melatonin governs biological rhythms, in order to furnish theoretical signposts for treating such disorders.

Key words: Melatonin; Biological clock; Mammal; Circadian rhythm; Annual rhythm

褪黑素 (melatonin), 化学名为 N-乙酰基-5 甲氧基色胺, 最早发现于 20 世纪 50 年代末 (Lerner et al. 1958), 因其能通过聚集黑色素颗粒使青蛙皮肤褪色变亮而得名, 在动植物、真菌、细菌中皆有发现 (Que et al. 2020)。褪黑素是一种与生理时钟有关的激素, 又称为身体的“授时因子”。植物中的褪黑素作为抗氧化剂维持细胞活性氧的代谢平衡 (Feng et al. 2022), 而在动物体内, 褪黑素的主要生理功能是将昼夜循环的信息传递给大脑中的信号受体 (Yang et al. 2023)。随着现代社会的快速发展, 很多人面临睡眠障碍、抑郁焦虑等问题, 临床上补充外源褪黑素可有效解决这些问题 (曹国定等 2020, Moon et al. 2022)。同时, 褪黑素在哺乳动物中的抗氧化功能也同样至关重要, 表现在调节代谢、减缓氧化应激及延缓衰老等方面 (高文婷等 2020)。

生物节律可分为日节律、月节律、潮汐节律和年节律等。内源性褪黑素参与睡眠觉醒相关的昼夜节律调节, 以及季节性生殖和冬眠相关的年节律调节。本文对内源性褪黑素的产生部位、作用途径进行梳理, 联系生物钟及神经内分泌系统的作用, 明确褪黑素调控生物节律的具体作用方式, 有利于更好地理解褪黑素调控和影响生物节律的多种途径, 为探究生物体的生物钟内源性发生机制提供参考, 同时可为褪黑素的基础研究提供思路和见解。

1 动物内源性褪黑素的产生和作用途径

哺乳动物中松果体 (pineal gland) 是神经内分泌传感器, 由于具有完整的感光信号传递系统被称为“第三只眼”。早期研究认为褪黑素

几乎完全在松果体内合成 (Axelrod 1974), 其合成和释放受光信号调节 (Lewy et al. 1980)。褪黑素的合成示意图如图 1 所示, 松果体细胞利用血液循环中吸收的色氨酸 (tryptophan), 经过色氨酸羟化酶 (tryptophan hydroxylase, TPH) 转化为 5-羟色氨酸 (5-hydroxytryptophan, 5-HTP), 在氨基酸脱羧酶 (amino acid decarboxylase, AAD) 的作用下转化为 5-羟色胺 (5-hydroxytryptamine, 5-HT), 也称为血清素, 再分别在单胺氧化酶 (monoamine oxidase, MAO) 和 5-羟色胺-N-乙酰转移酶 (serotonin N-acetyltransferase, AANAT) 的作用下形成 5-羟基吲哚-3-乙酸 (5-hydroxyindole-3-acetic acid, 5-HIAA) 和 N-乙酰-5-羟色胺 (N-acetyl-5-hydroxytryptamine, NAS)。5-羟基吲哚-3-乙酸 (5-HIAA) 在体内被肝和肾排出, N-乙酰-5-羟色胺 (NAS) 经过羟基吲哚-O-甲基转移酶 (hydroxyindole o-methyl transferase, HIOMT) 甲基化, 最终形成褪黑素。其中 5-羟色胺-N-乙酰转移酶 (AANAT) 为褪黑素合成过程的限速酶之一, 受到光信号调控, 视网膜接收的光信号通过下丘脑的视交叉上核 (suprachiasmatic nucleus, SCN) 和交感神经系统达到神经末梢 (Brzezinski 1997)。黑暗条件下, 视交叉上核 (SCN) 神经细胞上轴突释放的 γ -氨基丁酸 (γ -aminobutyric acid, GABA) 作用于下丘脑室旁核细胞 (paraventricular nucleus of hypothalamus, PVN), 下丘脑室旁核细胞 (PVN) 将信号再传导至脊柱中间外侧柱 (intermediolateral column of spinal cord, ILCC) 交感神经, 最后到达颈上神经节 (superior cervical ganglion, SCG), 颈上神经节 (SCG)

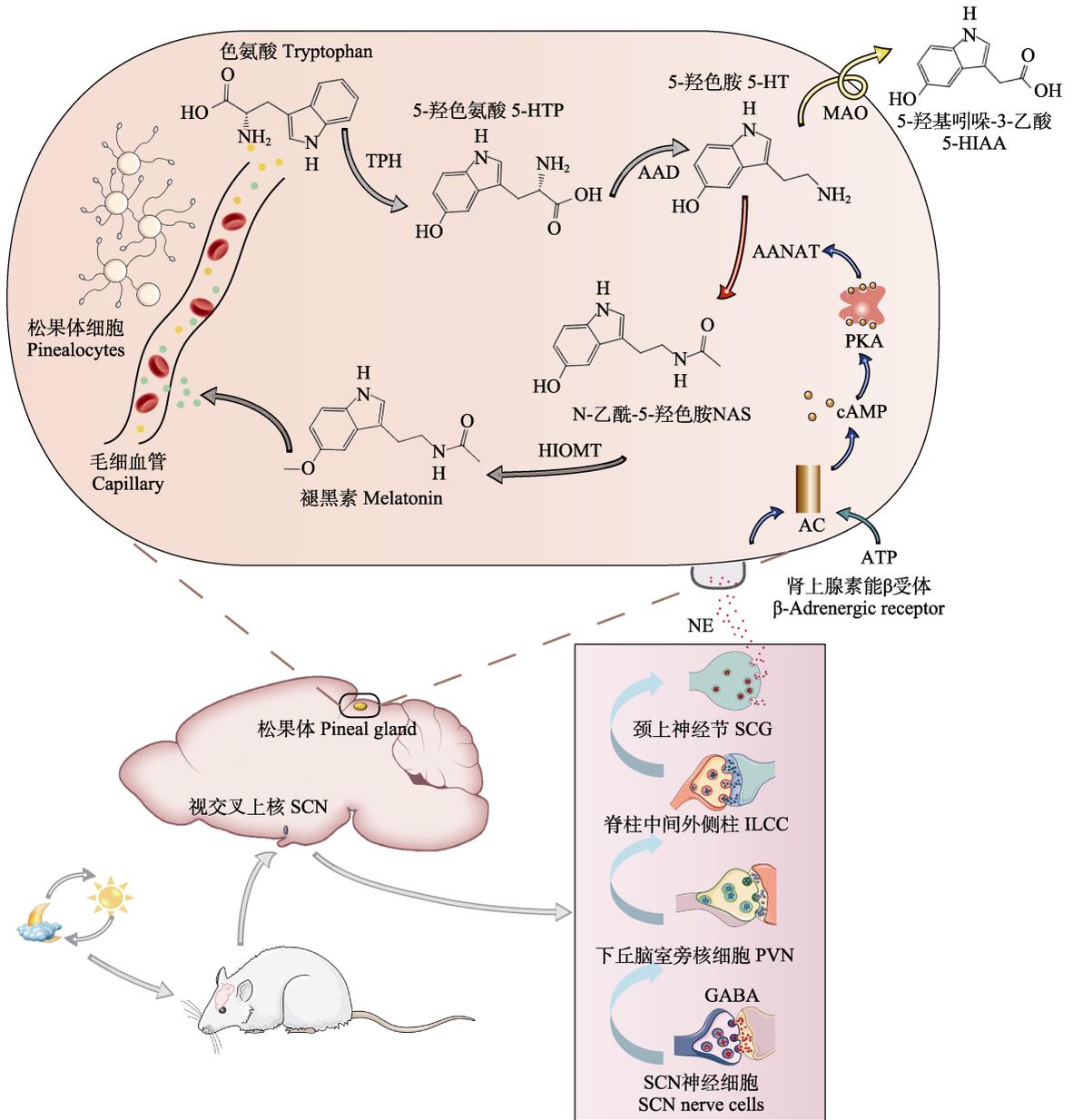


图 1 褪黑素合成示意图

Fig. 1 Schematic diagram of melatonin synthesis

AAD. 氨基脱羧酶; AANAT. 5-羟色胺-N-乙酰转移酶; AC. 腺苷酸环化酶; ATP. 腺苷三磷酸; cAMP. 环磷酸腺苷; GABA. γ -氨基丁酸; HIOMT. 羟基吲哚-O-甲基转移酶; MAO. 单胺氧化酶; NE. 去甲肾上腺素; PKA. 蛋白激酶 A; TPH. 色氨酸羟化酶; 5-HIAA. 5-Hydroxyindole-3-acetic acid; 5-HT. 5-Hydroxytryptamine; 5-HTP. 5-Hydroxytryptophan; AAD. Amino acid decarboxylase; AANAT. Serotonin N-acetyltransferase; AC. Adenyl cyclase; ATP. Adenosine triphosphate; cAMP. Cyclic adenosine monophosphate; GABA. γ -Aminobutyric acid; HIOMT. Hydroxyindole o-methyl transferase; ILCC. Intermediolateral column of spinal cord; MAO. Monoamine oxidase; NAS. N-acetyl-5-hydroxytryptamine; NE. Norepinephrine; PKA. Protein kinase A; PVN. Paraventricular nucleus of hypothalamus; SCG. Superior cervical ganglion; SCN. Suprachiasmatic nucleus; TPH. Tryptophan hydroxylase

分泌去甲肾上腺素 (norepinephrine, NE) 与松果体细胞上的肾上腺素能 β 受体结合, 激活腺苷酸环化酶 (adenyl cyclase, AC), 提高靶细胞环磷酸腺苷 (cyclic adenosine monophosphate, cAMP) 水平, 腺苷三磷酸 (adenosine triphosphate, ATP) 水解为此过程提供能量, 进而促进蛋白激酶 A (protein kinase A, PKA) 磷酸化 5-羟色胺-N-乙酰转移酶 (AANAT), 使其稳定在活性状态, 从而增加褪黑素的合成和释放 (马腾 2018)。

松果体外的器官和组织中也可能产生褪黑素即次要褪黑素, 其来源包括视网膜、肠道、皮肤、血小板及骨髓等 (Tan et al. 2023)。这些器官和组织产生的褪黑素含量远小于松果体, 但在一定条件下, 褪黑素可局部调节其他细胞因子和神经递质的释放, 进而改变一部分生理进程。如视网膜中合成的褪黑素可在局部调节多巴胺的传递, 使视网膜中 5-羟色胺-N-乙酰转移酶基因 AANAT 的表达和褪黑素水平表现出明显的昼夜节律 (Bhoi et al. 2023); 褪黑素还具有平衡肠道菌群昼夜节律稳态的功能 (Li et al. 2023)。

褪黑素因其亲脂性, 形成后会随着脊髓液和血液送至全身, 松果体内褪黑素的浓度比血液中的浓度高几倍 (Acuña-Castroviejo et al. 2014)。褪黑素的生物学功能主要通过受体介导和非受体介导两种途径来实现, 脊椎动物中发现了三种褪黑素受体亚型, MT1、MT2 和 MT3, 分散分布于中枢神经系统 and 外周靶组织中 (Emet et al. 2016)。哺乳动物褪黑素作用的主要靶点包括垂体腺结节部 (pars tuberalis, PT) 和视交叉上核 (SCN) (Klosen 2022), 其中, 视交叉上核 (SCN) 直接或间接地控制着哺乳动物体内所有器官的功能节律 (Dibner et al. 2010), 因而褪黑素发挥了双重作用, 首先作为一种依赖于视交叉上核 (SCN) 的输出信号, 其次作为一种潜在的反馈信息作用于视交叉上核 (SCN)。受体和其他结合位点的分布表明褪黑素具有显著的多效性, 这可能会影响大多数

作用通路及功能。

2 褪黑素与昼夜节律

哺乳动物中褪黑素的分泌具有昼夜节律, 且夜间产生褪黑素的时间与夜间的长度成正比 (Buonfiglio et al. 2014), 夜间褪黑素含量的上升主要来自松果体 (Song et al. 2023)。

生物钟系统由中枢神经系统和外周神经系统组成, 中枢神经系统部分位于下丘脑的视交叉上核 (SCN), 外周时钟的活动通过体液和神经连接与中央主时钟同步 (Ko et al. 2006)。哺乳动物的主要生物钟位于下丘脑的视交叉上核 (SCN) 内, 由视交叉上核 (SCN) 接收环境明暗信息并同步昼夜节律 (Cox et al. 2019)。褪黑素是生物钟发出的重要激素信号, 它将昼夜节律和日长信息传递给任何能够“读取”它的结构和器官 (Brzezinski et al. 2021)。褪黑素的信号通路可以通过与生物钟交互作用共同调控昼夜节律。生物钟的分子组成部分是一组时钟基因, 涉及细胞内转录、翻译反馈循环, 这些循环包括负向调控因子 *Period* (*Per1/2/3*)、*Cryptochrome* (*Cry1/2*) 和正向调控因子 *Bmal1*、*Clock* (Ko 2006)。哺乳动物松果体的交感神经在黑暗中被来自视交叉上核 (SCN) 的多突触通路激活释出去甲肾上腺素, 进而激活褪黑素合成。类似地, 时钟基因 *Per1* 在松果体中有节奏地表达, 与调控褪黑素合成的基因同样受到去甲肾上腺素能神经元的控制 (Wongchitrat et al. 2009)。在黑暗条件下, 5-羟色胺-N-乙酰转移酶基因 AANAT 启动子的 E-box 元件与 *Bmal1*-*Clock* 异二聚体结合, 进而增强 AANAT 的转录和表达, 最终促进褪黑素的合成; 在光照条件下, *Cry* 蛋白对 *Bmal1*-*Clock* 异二聚体产生抑制作用, 合成的褪黑素减少 (Brzezinski et al. 2021)。褪黑素除了与生物钟基因中的正向调控因子具有密切联系外, 与负向调控因子也存在关联。小鼠 (*Mus musculus*) 经过黑暗处理又施加褪黑素后, 有效升高了 *Per1* 和 *Per2* 基因的表达水平, 降低了 *Clock* 基因的表达水

平,使褪黑素水平恢复到正常(Yamanaka et al. 2018)。长时间的光照刺激促进 *Per2* 基因表达,同时抑制 *AANAT* 表达(Coelho et al. 2019),因此 *Per2* 基因的表达可能对褪黑素的产生具有拮抗作用。另外, *Cry1* 和 *Cry2* 基因缺失的小鼠中褪黑素的含量也非常低(Papachristos et al. 2011)。综上所述,褪黑素与生物钟分子共同作用调控生物昼夜节律。

褪黑素的正常合成分泌对于生物体维持日常活动至关重要。生理功能的昼夜节律也直接或间接依赖于褪黑素信号,例如免疫、抗氧化防御、止血和血糖调节(谢术欢等 2021, Ku et al. 2023)。褪黑素分泌的减少还可能与某些病理状态有关,如阿尔茨海默病、帕金森、癫痫、抑郁和中风等疾病(Cipolla-Neto et al. 2018, Sato et al. 2020)。

3 褪黑素与年节律

每天褪黑素分泌小时数的季节性变化调节了节律活动,使之与白昼长度的季节性变化时间耦合,因此褪黑素可以为生活在自然光周期条件下的物种提供昼夜和季节信号,哺乳动物生物学功能的季节性动态受褪黑素介导的促甲状腺激素(thyroid stimulating hormone)和甲状腺激素(thyroid hormone)分泌的周期性波动调节(Wood et al. 2020)。

3.1 褪黑素与繁殖年节律

动物的季节性繁殖受到生物钟和褪黑素共同参与的下丘脑-垂体-性腺轴(hypothalamic-pituitary-gonadal axis, HPGA)调控(Olcese 2020)。褪黑素通过激活下丘脑促性腺激素释放激素(gonadotropin-releasing hormone, GnRH)神经元,释放促性腺激素释放激素(GnRH)作用于垂体前叶的结节部、远侧部的促性腺激素(gonadotropin)细胞和催乳素(prolactin)细胞,以及睾丸和卵巢中的褪黑素受体,进而调节下丘脑-垂体-性腺轴(HPGA),以实现季节性繁殖的调控(姚蔚等 2017a)。

褪黑素对哺乳动物性腺功能具有直接影

响,光周期的季节性变化通过循环中褪黑素水平的变化引起雌性的生殖活动(Pal Chowdhury et al. 2020)。卵泡液中存在大量褪黑素(Wang et al. 2018),卵巢颗粒细胞中也存在褪黑素受体(Rai et al. 2021),褪黑素可直接影响季节性繁殖物种的卵巢颗粒细胞(Zhao et al. 2021)。同时季节性作用于垂体腺结节部受体,通过改变血管内皮细胞生长因子的剪接,实现促性腺激素功能的改变(Castle-Miller et al. 2017)。研究发现,犬蝠(*Cynopterus sphinx*)的卵巢活动和松果体质量具有负相关性,进一步研究表明,褪黑素在调节卵巢功能和适应性胚胎发育延迟方面有重要作用(Haldar et al. 2006)。最近关于外源褪黑素对卵巢和胎盘影响的研究也证实了褪黑素对生物繁殖的直接作用(Hashem et al. 2023)。褪黑素还可以通过影响与哺乳动物年节律活动相关的激素对繁殖节律进行调控。褪黑素可降低促性腺激素释放激素(GnRH) mRNA 的表达,进而抑制促性腺激素释放激素(GnRH)诱导的黄体生成素(luteinizing hormone, LH)释放,同时抑制环磷酸腺苷(cAMP)和环磷酸鸟苷(cGMP)积累,以抑制下丘脑-垂体-性腺轴(HPGA)传导激素信息(Chen et al. 2022)。瘦素(leptin)与雌性繁殖、生物体的能量平衡以及体重年际变化相关,对褪黑素合成存在缺陷的小鼠给予褪黑素处理,其瘦素水平显著增加(Lv et al. 2019)。褪黑素还可以通过调节雌二醇(estradiol)的合成调节卵泡发育(Liu et al. 2019),催乳素的周期分泌也离不开褪黑素的正常合成分泌(Lincoln et al. 2006)。另外,黄体生成素(LH)在生物生殖行为中也至关重要,其受褪黑素调节以调控哺乳动物性激素的分泌(Sellix 2014)。多肽类激素 Kisspeptin 有利于促进促性腺激素释放激素(GnRH)分泌,受褪黑素的正反馈作用激活下丘脑-垂体-性腺轴(HPGA)实现生物的繁殖周期活动(傅燕玲等 2017, Poissenot et al. 2021)。除此之外,褪黑素的稳定分泌可能介导非冬眠哺乳动物长爪沙鼠(*Meriones unguiculatus*)能量平衡的光

不敏感性,有利于其对环境变化的适应能力(姚蔚等 2017b)。这表明褪黑素可能直接影响下丘脑神经元的促性腺激素释放激素(GnRH)的分泌,控制促性腺激素、黄体生成素(LH)和促卵泡生成素(follicle stimulating hormone)的分泌,进而影响动物的繁殖活动。

3.2 褪黑素与冬眠年节律

冬眠是生物体度过环境条件恶劣的冬季的一种生理策略。不同生物冬眠模式存在差异,兼性冬眠者通过感知外界环境变化的刺激后诱发冬眠;专性冬眠者的冬眠节律由内源性的节律时钟调节。褪黑素通过直接提供冬眠信号及维持其他冬眠所需的生理状态两方面在兼性冬眠者和专性冬眠者的季节性调节中发挥重要作用(Coomans et al. 2015, Lewis et al. 2017)。

一方面,褪黑素为冬眠生物提供冬眠信号。部分哺乳动物越冬开始的时间和相关的生理反应由褪黑素调节(Nieminen et al. 2002, Mustonen et al. 2018)。相比于不能合成褪黑素的小鼠,正常合成褪黑素的小鼠蛰伏行为显著增加(Zhang et al. 2021),且进入冬眠的动物大脑中5-羟色胺-N-乙酰转移酶基因AANAT表达量高于非冬眠期(Yu et al. 2002)。金色中仓鼠(*Mesocricetus auratus*)冬眠时的视交叉上核(SCN)中褪黑素受体密度低于长光照周期下的受体密度(Schuster et al. 2001),没有冬眠行为的黑线毛足鼠(*Phodopus sungorus*)的褪黑素受体密度不受光周期变化影响(Recio et al. 1996)。此外,褪黑素与光周期联系产生的内分泌信号还影响体重调节相关的瘦素和生长激素(growth hormone)的合成(Nieminen et al. 2002),并与其共同作用以实现冬眠期所需的体温降低、抑制代谢和对禁食的内分泌反应。动物冬季皮毛的变化与秋季食欲的增加是褪黑素介导的最明显的季节性变化(Mustonen et al. 2004)。已有研究证实褪黑素直接影响冬眠行为,如切除黑线毛足鼠的松果体后,给予长时间的褪黑素处理(模拟冬季短光周期)引发类似短日反应(Bartness et al. 1988)。另外,外源

性褪黑素的处理还可以延长冬眠时间,如为金色中仓鼠侧脑室注入褪黑素,冬眠时间延长了12%到15%(Stanton et al. 1987),而注射褪黑素拮抗剂S22153则导致冬眠时间的缩短(Pitrosky et al. 2003)。

另一方面,褪黑素还具有抗氧化的保护作用,以及调节冬眠过程中能量平衡的功能(Willis et al. 2014)。冬眠动物具有将活性氧的有害影响降到最低的机制(Reiter et al. 2017),抗坏血酸和褪黑素等抗氧化剂的水平在冬眠期间会增加,有助于神经保护和大脑中线粒体功能的维持(Schwartz et al. 2015),同时有效缓解苏醒过程的失血性休克现象(Perez de Lara Rodriguez et al. 2017)。另外,褪黑素合成过程的中间产物N-乙酰血清素也可通过发挥其抗氧化机制发挥神经保护作用(Kang et al. 2023)。其次,褪黑素还可以通过影响糖代谢、脂质代谢和胰岛素(insulin)分泌来影响能量平衡,通过参与白色脂肪褐变和棕色脂肪产热直接调节能量平衡(Cipolla-Neto et al. 2014)。在秋季和春季分别为大黄蝠(*Scotophilus heathii*)注射褪黑素后可消除胰岛素抵抗,有利于维持葡萄糖稳态(Srivastava et al. 2010, Willis et al. 2014)。褪黑素能抑制视交叉上核(SCN)对葡萄糖的摄取,哺乳动物中蝙蝠与许多啮齿类冬眠动物在能量消耗和脂肪储存方面表现出的明显季节性波动也与光周期和褪黑素相关(Jonasson et al. 2011)。

3.3 褪黑素与其他年节律行为

褪黑素与季节性节律的关联除了表现在繁殖与冬眠外,还与迁徙、洄游,以及非繁殖性社会行为有关。

生物度过寒冷冬季的另一种策略是迁徙,如许多鸟类为了避免极端气候而迁徙到资源丰富的温带气候地区。研究表明,夜间的迁徙兴奋与褪黑素分泌有关(Gwinner et al. 2001, Kumar et al. 2010)。鸟类在迁徙过程中褪黑素循环水平降低(Coppack et al. 2011),这可能有有利于鸟类在夜间保持觉醒和警惕。通过控制长

短日照模拟自然季节诱导黑头鹀 (*Emberiza melanocephala*) 表现出迁徙或非迁徙行为, 发现 5-羟色胺-N-乙酰转移酶基因 *AANAT* 和褪黑素受体基因的 mRNA 表达的节律水平和持续性都有显著差异 (Trivedi et al. 2019), 说明褪黑素在迁徙鸣禽季节性迁徙中的重要作用。鱼类的迁徙行为称为洄游, 利用这种周期运动更换适宜的水域以顺利完成生命活动。Orgi 等 (2022) 发现塔氏欧白鱼 (*Alburnus tarichi*) 在从湖泊到河流进行繁殖迁徙的过程中, 其血浆褪黑素水平升高, 有利于平衡其他性激素水平以顺利完成繁殖过程。

褪黑素还与非繁殖性的季节性社会行为有关, 如攻击性行为 (Skinner 2018)。褪黑素是促进黑线毛足鼠攻击性神经内分泌调节的“季节性转换”的关键激素, 因而黑线毛足鼠在冬季的攻击性行为在褪黑素影响下增加 (Munley et al. 2022)。另外, 催乳素对调节蜕皮和皮毛的年度变化至关重要 (Dawson et al. 1998), 催乳素季节性节律的分子机制被认为是依赖于褪黑素的 (Stewart et al. 2022)。当下丘脑和垂体连接信号被破坏时, 绵羊 (*Ovis aries*) 在短光照周期时催乳素的分泌没有表现出周期节律 (Lincoln et al. 2006)。除此之外, 褪黑素还与鸣禽和个别非鸣禽的发声活动相关 (Seltmann et al. 2016)。欧椋鸟 (*Sturnus vulgaris*) 的发声核团含有褪黑素受体, 褪黑素处理使部分发声脑区减小 (Bentley et al. 1999)。灰林鸮 (*Strix aluco*) 的发声模式也呈现出与鸣禽类似的每日和季节的变化 (Agostino et al. 2020), 因此推测其表现出的发声时间的规律性可能也受松果体的影响。

4 总结与展望

褪黑素作为调控生物节律的重要激素已经成为相关领域的热点研究主题。对于褪黑素的研究已经从描述性研究发展到了分子水平, 并且不断完善着内源性生物钟的作用机制, 但目前的研究结果仍不足以全面解释生物节律的调

控机制。

目前的研究中, 关于昼夜节律的研究相较于年节律更加丰富和深入。昼夜节律调控中, 褪黑素常与生物钟分子共同起作用。褪黑素合成限速酶 5-羟色胺-N-乙酰转移酶基因 *AANAT* 与 *Bmal1-Clock* 异二聚体结合促进褪黑素合成, 生物钟基因中的正向和负向调控因子间接影响褪黑素水平, 共同作用使生物表现出昼夜节律。随着社会的发展和科技的进步, 人们生活水平显著提高的同时, 心理疾病逐渐增多并恶化, 其中, 青少年由于褪黑素分泌节律紊乱而导致的抑郁症已经引起了社会的广泛关注 (陈志红等 2023), 轮休制度与夜间值班制度的常态化使得越来越多的人褪黑素的分泌受到抑制, 造成女性经期不规律、卵巢功能紊乱等 (杜文豪等 2023)。有效预防和治疗抑郁症、女性不育等问题的方法仍需要进一步探索, 褪黑素为相关治疗提供了一个方向。在年节律调控中, 褪黑素不仅通过直接和间接参与生物的下丘脑-垂体-性腺轴 (HPGA) 调控繁殖年节律, 还通过发挥其抗氧化性和平衡能量等功能参与其他 (如冬眠、迁徙等非繁殖性社会行为) 活动。因此, 褪黑素的生物学功能不仅表现在对动物昼夜行为的调控上, 同样表现在动物的年际行为活动中, 但关于褪黑素在冬眠过程中的具体作用机制以及对于其他非繁殖性季节性活动的影响仍然未知, 这为后续关于褪黑素的研究提供了一个重要方向。

综上所述, 进一步探究褪黑素与生物节律的关系是必要的, 一方面有利于揭示内源性生物钟机制, 另一方面有利于了解褪黑素的多方面功能以应用于预防和治疗人类相关疾病。

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红翅绿鸠共有 4 个亚种, 在我国 *T. s. sieboldii* 分布于华东, *T. s. sororius* 分布于台湾, *T. s. fopingensis* 分布于陕西南部、四川、重庆、湖北以及内蒙古, *T. s. murielae* 分布于贵州、广西和海南 (刘阳 2021)。结合各亚种的形态特征与分布范围, 判断本次记录个体应为红翅绿鸠 *fopingensis* 亚种 (郑光美 2023)。红翅绿鸠为罕见留鸟及候鸟, 仅有少部分迁徙 (约翰·马敬能等 2000), 此次现身距秦岭不远的南阳, 很可能是正常扩散至此。

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