

異分野融合による新型コロナウイルスをはじめとした感染症との共生に資する  
技術基盤の創生

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先端ゲノム解析と人工知能によるコロナ制圧研究

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## 研究成果の概要

第5波から第8波にかけての変異株の影響を受けた新規収集ヒトサンプルの検体処理ならびに臨床情報の収集を行い、合計6400検体のヒト検体を収集し、研究開始前に計画していた症例数5,000名の目標値を大きく超える収集を実現できた。収集したDNA検体については、SNPアレイによる全ゲノムジェノタイピングデータを行いデータ化した後、アジアで初めてCOVID-19患者さんと健康者との遺伝子型を網羅的に比較する大規模ゲノムワイド関連解析を実施した。その結果、免疫機能での重要な役割が知られる「Dedicator of cytokinesis 2 (DOCK2)」遺伝子の領域の遺伝子多型が、65歳以下の非高齢者における重症化リスクと関連性を示すことを発見した(Nature, 2022)。また、RNA-seq解析、single cell RNA-seq解析、一細胞解析、病理解析、細胞実験、動物実験による詳細な解析から、DOCK2がCOVID-19の重症化のマーカーとなるだけでなく、COVID-19の治療標的となることを見出した。これらは、今後の新しい治療戦略につながる成果と考えている。更に、COVID-19の重症度とゲノム変異による遺伝子発現制御の相互関係の解析(ieQTL解析)により、重症度に応じた遺伝子発現の変化パターンがヒトゲノム変異の有無で異なる遺伝子(例えば、CLEC4C)が存在することを明らかにした(Nature Communications, 2022)。これらの研究成果は、貴重な検体をSNPアレイ、全ゲノムシーケンス、RNAシーケンス等の技術によってデータ化した結果得られたものであり、そのデータは膨大なものとなる。その解析については、SHIROKANEを用いた解析基盤を強化することで対応した。臨床情報のクリーニングを実施し、データマネージメントプランを作成、収集検体を分注処理し順次オミックス解析などの解析を行った。

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