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**Supplementary Materials**

<u>Q-Q Plots for Evaluation of Normalcy</u>

For continuous variables in Tables 3, quantile-quantile (QQ) plots were obtained in the (independent) LVT and PB groups. Log- transformation was applied to mitigate skewness in some variables. Comparisons between groups were made by t-tests or Mann-Whitney-Wilcoxon U-tests (MWW) as appropriate.
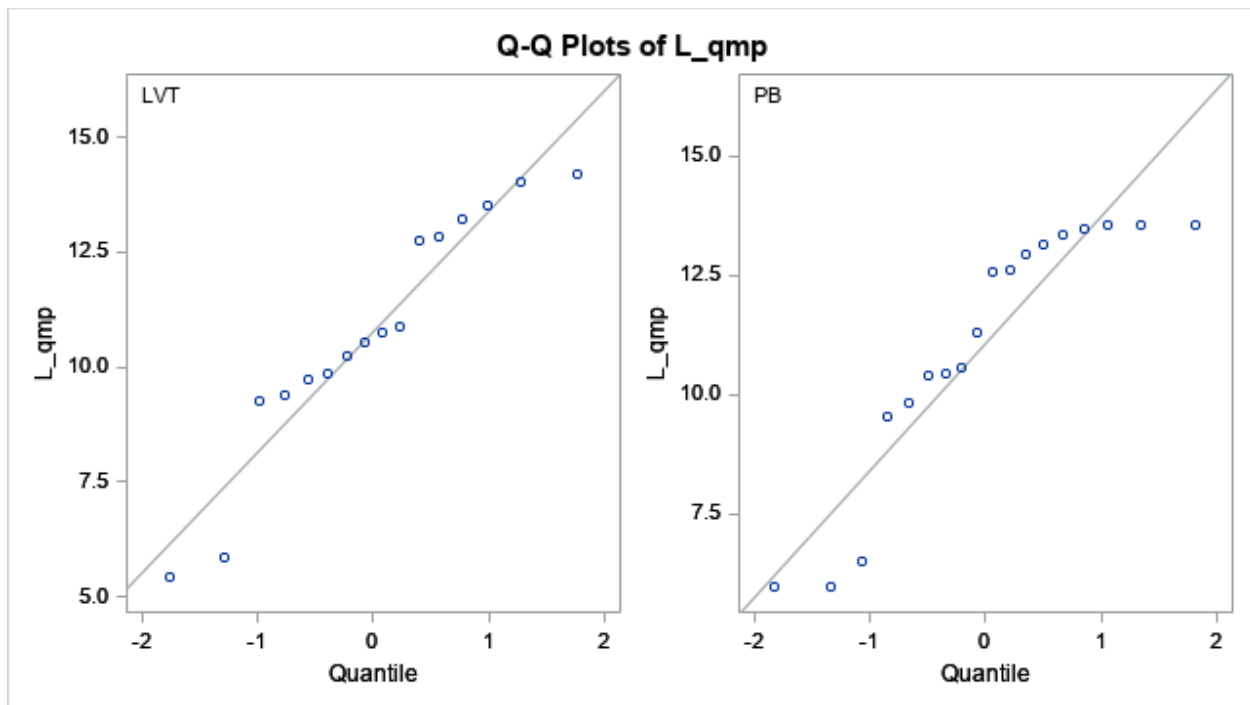
- **AGE in months (Age_mts)**
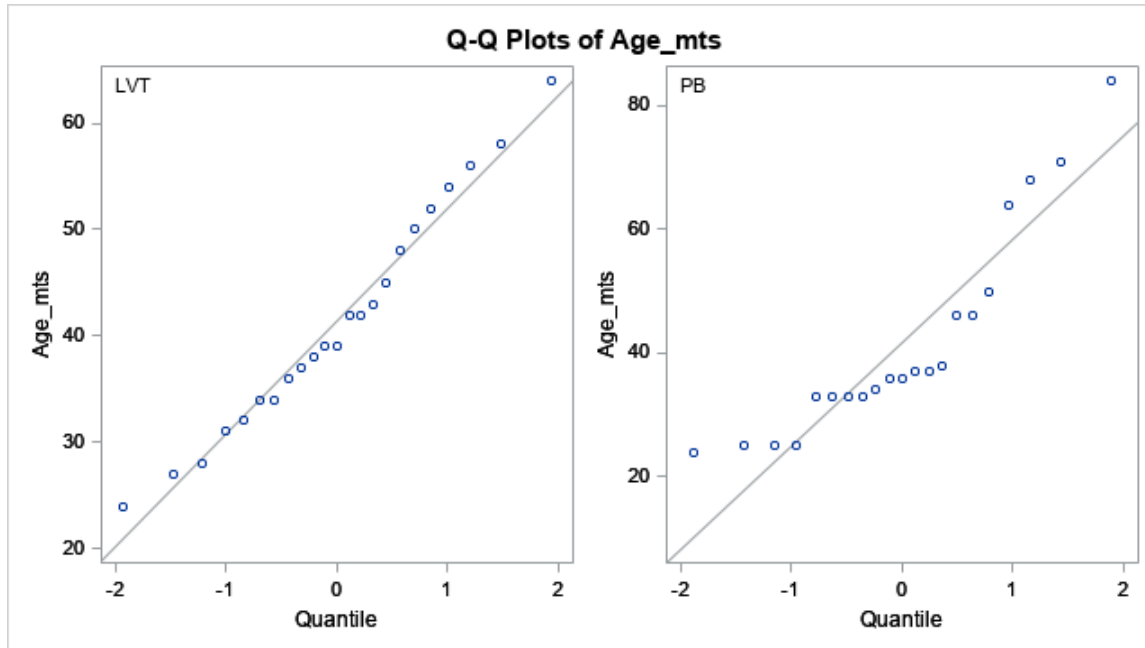
In LVT the normality assumption is tenable, but not so in PB.

Comparison based on MWW test: p=0.50

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- **Parasite count (qmp)**

Parasite count was log-transformed [L_qmp] and then compared between LVT and PB


Q-Q Plots of L_qmp

Normality tenable in LVT, but not in PB

Comparison based on MWW test: p=0.62 for positive parasite counts, and separately for proportion of zero counts. Zero Counts: In LVT 7/23 (30%); in PB 3/21 (14%). Difference not significant (p=0.29).
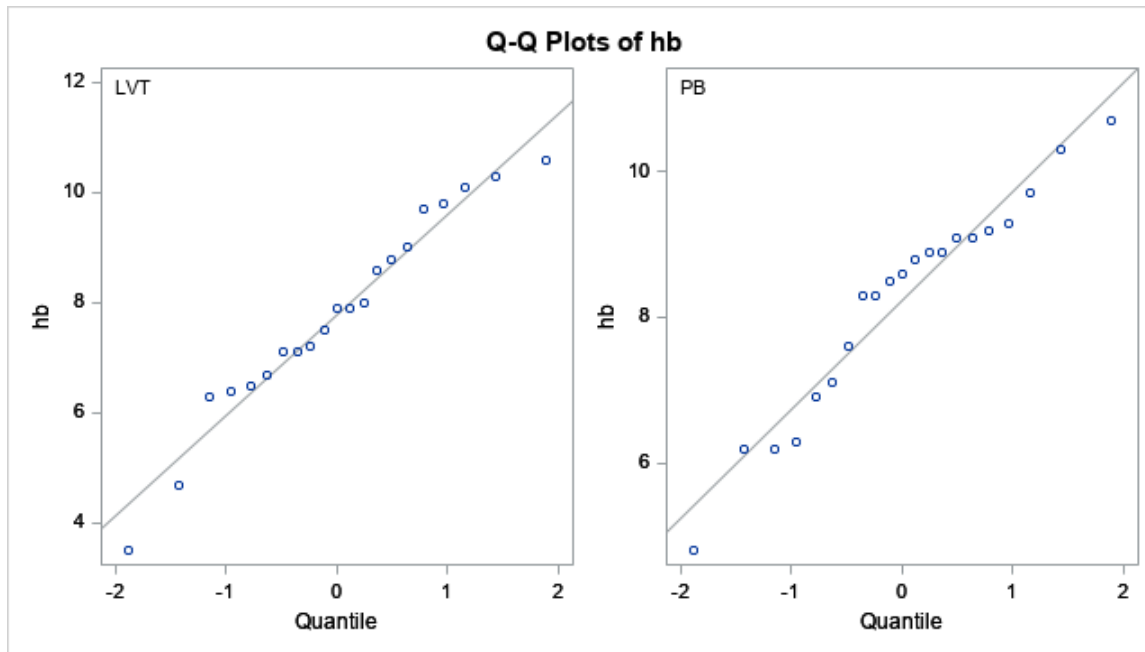
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- **Lactate**

    Log-transformation applied to reduce skewness before comparison is made

Q-Q Plots of L_chem_lactate
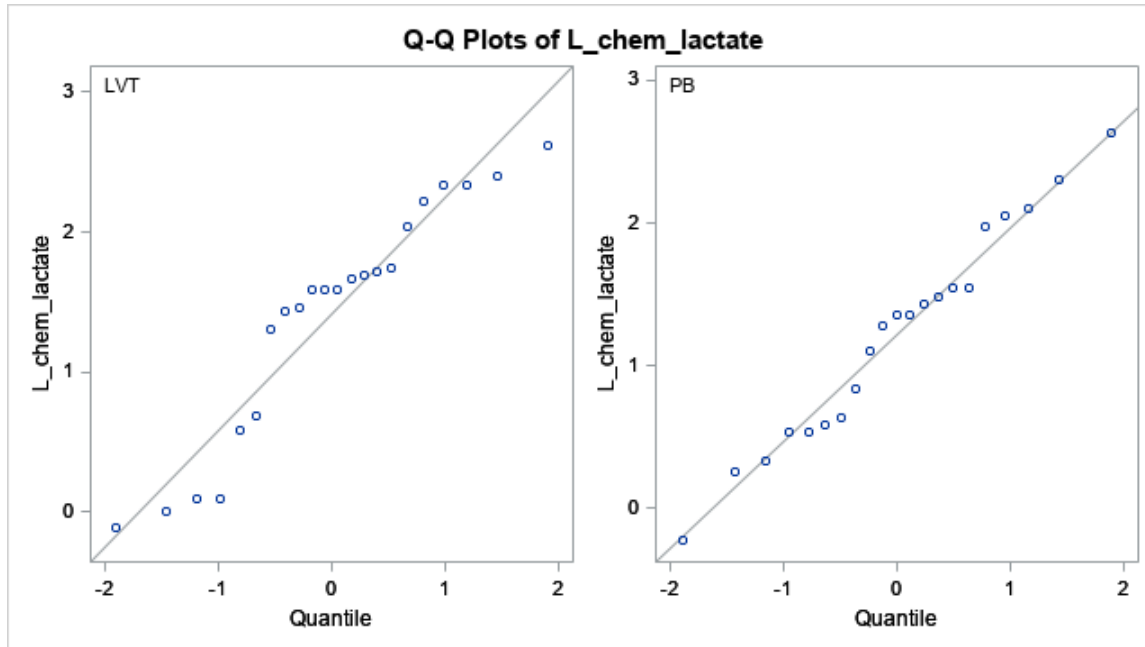
Comparison based on t-test: p=0.43 on log transformed values.

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- **Hemoglobin (HB)**

Q-Q Plots of hb

In LVT one outlier was removed. Normality tenable in both groups.

Comparison based on t-test: p=0.41

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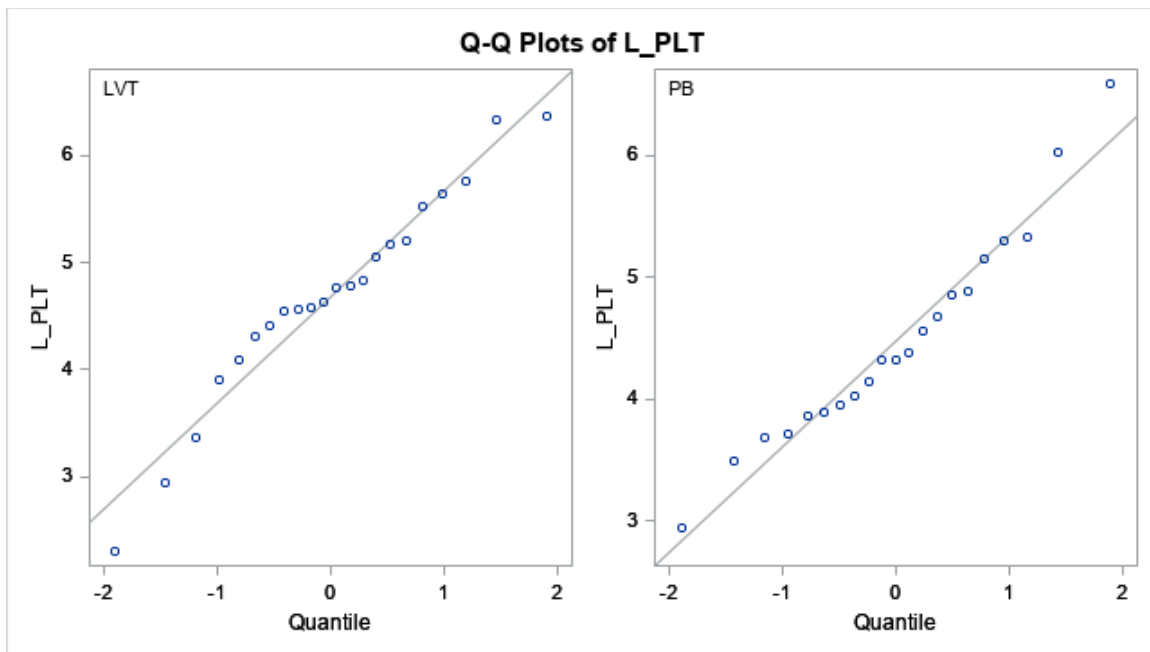
- **Hematocrit (hct)**

Q-Q Plots of hct
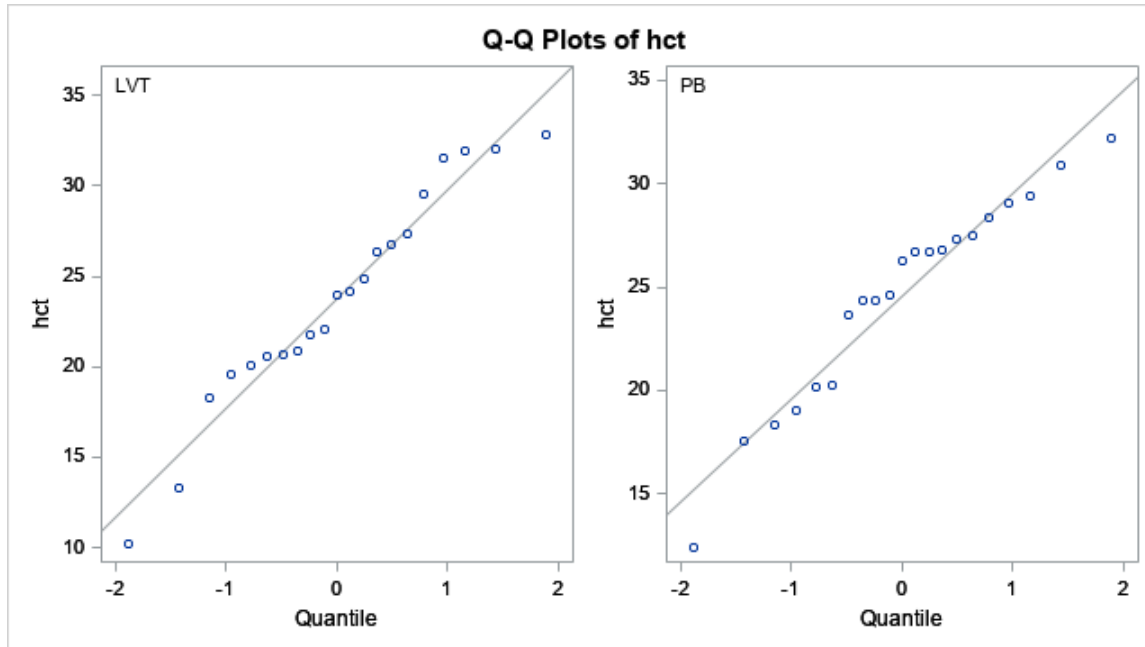
In LVT one outlier was removed. Normal distribution is tenable in both groups

Comparison based on t-test: p=0.63

- **Platelets**

The log-transformation was applied to mitigate skewness.

Normality tenable in each group on log transformed values.

Comparison by t-test: p=0.48