Descriptive data of the ponies and horses at the beginning of the study

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|  | Shetland ponies | Warmblood horses |
| Sex | 10 geldings | 9 geldings |
| Age, years | 6 ± 3 | 10 ± 3 |
| Body weight, kg | 118 ± 29 | 589 ± 58 |
| Body condition score (BCS),0-51 | 2.3 (1.2/3.4) | 2.7 (2.1/3.2) |
| Cresty neck score (CNS),0-52 | 2.5 (0.8/3) | 2 (1.8/2.3) |
| Plasma adrenocorticotropic hormone (ACTH), pg/mLThreshold: 50 pg/mL | 15.9(12.8/17.1) | 16.4 (15.1/19.6) |
| Leukocytes (G/L) | t0t2t5 | 7.87 ± 1.266.18 ± 2.236.93 ± 2.09 | 5.14 ± 0.725.58 ± 1.65.88 ± 1.12 |
| Erythrocytes (T/L) | t0t2t5 | 6.15 ± 0.66.53 ± 0.596.87 ± 0.96 | 6.52 ± 0.437.39 ± 0.87.92 ± 0.98 |
| Hemoglobin (mmol/L) | t0t2t5 | 6.17 ± 0.676.58 ± 0.616.93 ± 0.77 | 6.93 ± 0.437.71 ± 0.728.13 ± 0.69 |

1Mean of two independent evaluators. Age, BW, leukocytes, erythrocytes and hemoglobin are presented as mean (± SD); BCS, CNS and ACTH are presented as median (25th/75th percentiles).