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| **Table S9. Effects of CORT treatment on immune related indexes of chickens.** Data are shown as the mean ± SE. Different lowercase letters (a and b) in same column indicate significant differences among the C\_B and B\_B groups (P < 0.05).  |  |
| **Group name** | **CD3+****(U/ml)** | **CD4+****(U/ml)** | **IgG****(ng/ml)** | **TNF-α****(ng/L)** | **IL-1β****(ng/L)** | **IL-6****(ng/L)** |
| B\_B | 16.03±1.68a | 4.58±0.25a | 678.61±67.58 | 148.81±13.75b | 21.88±2.91b | 34.16±6.80b |
| C\_B | 14.24±0.79b | 3.43±0.39b | 665.24±92.40 | 167.12±9.73a | 24.03±1.95a | 40.18±2.27a |