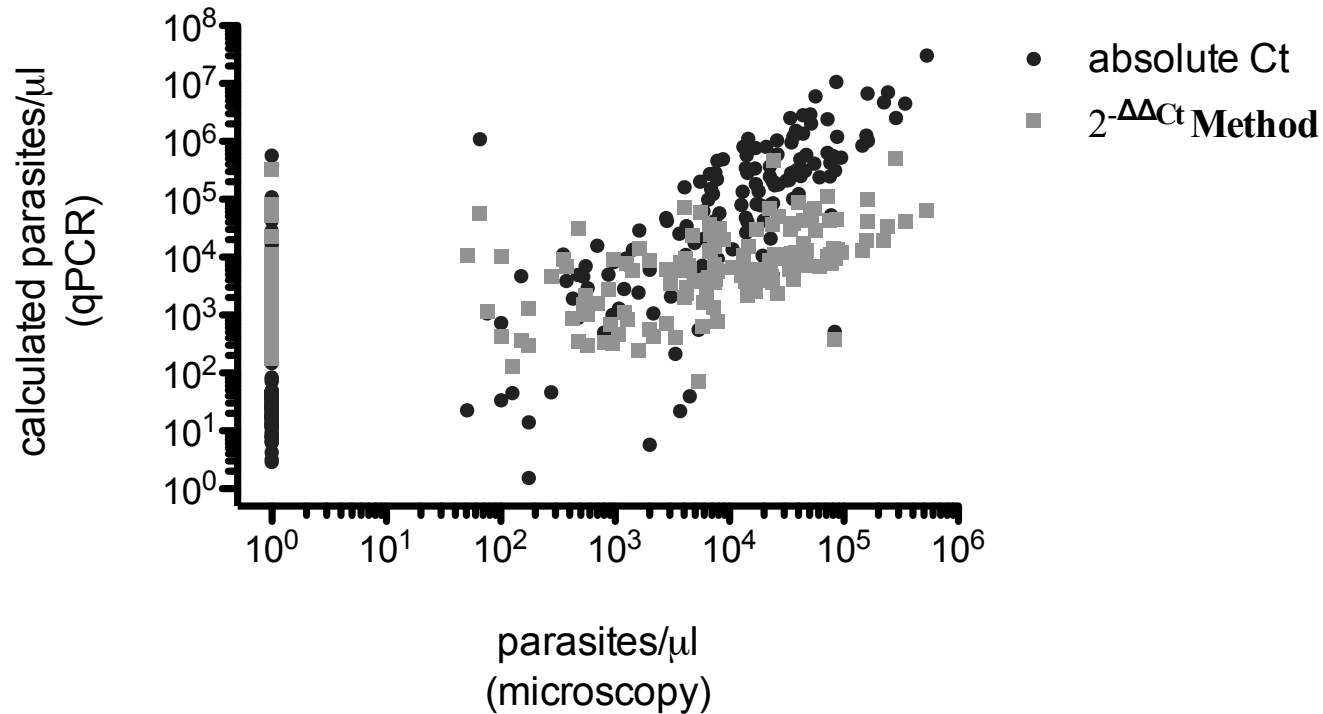


Supplemental Figure 1. Correlation between calculated parasite density from qPCR and actual parasite density from blood smears. Black circles represent parasite density derived from absolute Ct values, and gray squares represent parasite density derived using the  $2^{-\Delta\Delta Ct}$  method for comparing relative values using human GAPDH as the reference housekeeping gene and a 5000 parasite/ $\mu$ l standard as the reference sample. Please see methods for details. For this plot, all parasite density values were transformed using  $\log(x+10)$  to allow visualization of zero values.



	Ct	$2^{-ddCt}$
Number of XY Pairs	279	279
Pearson r	0.7862	0.3349
95% confidence interval	0.7368 to 0.8273	0.2264 to 0.4353
P value (two-tailed)	< 0.0001	< 0.0001
P value summary	****	****
Is the correlation significant? (alpha=0.05)	Yes	Yes
R square	0.6181	0.1122