Reviewer’s report

Title: Valeriana officinalis root extract suppresses physical and psychological stress responses by decreasing the ratio of monoamine neurotransmitters to their metabolites

Version: 2 Date: 1 August 2014

Reviewer: BOMBI LEE

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Ref: No. MS # 7905659551266067

Valeriana officinalis root extract suppresses physical and psychological stress responses by decreasing the ratio of monoamine neurotransmitters to their metabolites

Reviewers’ comments:

Reviewer #1: In the manuscript entitled “Valeriana officinalis root extract suppresses physical and psychological stress responses by decreasing the ratio of monoamine neurotransmitters to their metabolites”, Jung et al. demonstrated that Valeriana officinalis administration significantly suppresses the physical and psychological stress response by reducing the plasma levels of corticosterone and turnover of 5-HT and NE. I basically agree with the author’s opinion. This article handles interesting theme and the authors have performed nice research. Yet, this manuscript needs to be improved before published:

Minor comments:
1. There are some mistakes in grammar, and some sentences are confusing.
2. They need to describe the analysis protocols of corticosterone in more detail.
3. They need to describe the analysis protocols of HPLC in more detail.
4. In my opinion, one-way ANOVA using the Turkey’s post hoc test is more suitable than one-way ANOVA using the Bonferroni’s post hoc test. Furthermore, please confirm that significance statistical difference between all groups, as they are described in the text.
5. Author should clarify the sample number for Figure 2, 3, and 4.

Level of interest: An article of outstanding merit and interest in its field

Quality of written English: Needs some language corrections before being
published

**Statistical review:** Yes, but I do not feel adequately qualified to assess the statistics.

**Declaration of competing interests:**

I declare that I have no competing interests.