Comments:

Abstract- please mention the main results (at least the p- values) in the abstract.

Introduction- The study is about human subjects. But the introduction is missing background information on the test compounds on humans. If it the first time being tested on humans, it should be mentioned and highlighted. There needs to be a clear justification for transitioning from animal studies to human trials beyond this one line "Although those two botanical extracts are expected to have beneficial effects on cognitive function and anti-stress from previous animal studies, no clinical data has never been reported." Please also mention some basic chemical properties with side-effects (or lack thereof) for readers who don’t know about the test compounds chosen.

Materials and methods- please revise and re-write section 2.1 accordingly. It does not match with Figure 1. The blood data that were omitted is not reflected on Fig 1.

Please provide citation for RBANS at the first mention, Line 106. If possible, please provide short details of each of the 12 components as an Appendix.

Please provide some details of each test compound in an appendix, for the lay audience: source, function, natural/synthetic, health benefits etc.

Please provide rationale for safety assessments (going back to the safety issues mentioned above).

If other studies have published methods for calculating “GM-BHQ and FA-BHQ” as used in the study, please cite appropriately. If this is a novel technique, it is important to provide the details in a supplement, for the purpose of replicability. The techniques as described currently, are unclear “GM-BHQ and FA-BHQ were calculated using the T1-weighted, T2-weighted, diffusion 105 tensor, and resting-state functional MRI images, approved using ITU-T H.861”.

The randomization procedure is not clear. Please provide accurate details so it is replicable.

Please include mean and SD in the statistical analyses section as well as calculation of delta.

Overall: Very interesting research!
To referee 2

1) Thank you for very suggestive comments. We changed description in Abstract with P values shown in lines 29 – 32, and Results in lines 176 – 184.

2) Thank you for very suggestive comment. We explained in Introduction as “In this study, we focused on two crude drug extracts, leaf of *Eleutherococcus senticosus* and rhizome of *Drynaria fortunei*. Our previous studies indicated those two extracts potentiated cognitive function in mice explained as below, and no human study has been performed yet. No adverse effect was reported in animal studies concerning those two extracts. “ (lines 38 – 41).

3) We have corrected Figure 1. Description in section 2.1. is correct.

4) Thank you for comments. We already cited RBANS as reference #12 (line 130). Detail domains and subscores are shown in Table 2.

5) Extracts used in this study were extracts of natural crude drug, not synthesized compounds. Sources and general functions are already described in lines 42 – 48 for ES, line 57 – 61 for DR.

6) General safety was mentioned in Introduction (line 40- 41). Results of safety assessment tests were added in Materials and Methods in lines 102 – 104 for ES extract, and lines 107 – 109 for DR extract.

7) We can’t understand about your comments of GM-BHQ and FA-BHQ. Such kinds of contents are not included in our manuscript. It seems to be comments for other’s papers?

8) Randomization procedure has been added in lines 146 – 147.

9) The results are expressed as means with standard deviations (SD). This was already mentioned in line 150.