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Readers' letters

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High stakes

The lottery as it stands is never likely to cause major gambling problems (Research, May 21) as there are only two chances a week for people to get rewarded.

However, the new daily lottery draw announced last week may lead to more overspending as there will be some people who feel "entrapped" by their numbers (ie they do not want to risk their regular numbers coming up on a day that they didn't play).

The fact that the only problem gambler identified in the London Metropolitan University research was a fruit machine gambler is very predictable. This is an activity in which people can continuously chase their losses and gamble up to 12 times a minute.

The biggest worry is that, in the next few years, Camelot will introduce fast-action US lottery games like Keno, which has lottery draws every five minutes and which is potentially very addictive.

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