Outline and evaluate the biological explanation of gambling (8+16)

<table>
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<th>AO1</th>
<th>AO2/3</th>
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| Compulsive control disorder, focused on; | P: Real world application  
E: Hollander et al; SSRIs reduce gambling  
E: Shows role of biology |
| 1. Loss of control | P: Doesn’t explain why some methods are more addictive than others  
E: Breen & Zimmerman; took online gamblers 1 year to become compulsive, but sports gamblers took 3.5 years  
E: Reductionistic – limits complex theory to simplest form |
| 2. Increase in gambling frequency | P: Generalise with caution  
E: Most research done on animals  
E: Not representative to complex human behaviour |
| 3. Gambling although negative repercussions | P: Contamination effects  
E: Twin studies/1st degree relatives are in same environment  
E: Can’t contribute all behaviour to biology; lowering validity |
| Used as an escape | P: Correlational studies  
E: Can’t establish cause and effect  
E: Reductionistic – other factors |

Initiation
- Shah et al; twin study, found evidence for genetic transmission of gambling in men
- Black et al; 1st degree relative of gambler likely to suffer from gambling addiction
- Comings et al; connection between genetics and antisocial personality (attention seeking, not following social norms, violence), leading to gambling addiction
- Raine et al; found antisocial personality disorder was caused by abnormalities in the brain

Maintenance
- Underactive pituitary-adrenal response
- Paris et al; recreational gamblers had high salivary cortisol levels after both, but pathological had no increase to either (need more)
- Zuckerman; individual differences in the need for optimal amounts of stimulation
- Sensation seekers look for novel/varied experiences
- High sensation seekers have low appreciation of risk and see arousal as positive – more likely to gamble

Relapse
- Pathological gamblers need intense stimulation and excitement
- Blaszczynski et al; poor boredom tolerance may contribute to repetitive gambling behaviour

Preview from Notesale.co.uk