Problem to Be Addressed:

Evidence exists that there is a link between the physiology of humans and certain species of animals. So, why do veterinarians and public health agencies maintain only limited epidemiological records on the incidence of certain animal diseases when this information could be used to prevent disease in humans?

Hypothesis:

Such epidemiological records are not available because veterinarians and public health agencies are not required by law to create them. There is no law to require the reporting of animal diseases to public health agencies; therefore, few vet hospitals are collecting this data. Also, analyzing and collecting this data requires additional funding and resources that would need to be provided by the state.

Prediction:

If I contact 100 veterinary clinics around the bay area and ask if their office keeps separate records of cancer cases other than patient charts, then the results I gather will help prove that this area of public health is not being recognized as important preventative measures of human illness.