Copyright Permissions Guidelines
Updated July 2015
Copyright Permissions in a Nutshell

- Copyright permissions are a gray issue
- Fees determined on a case-by-case basis
  - Generally, items from journals tend to be less expensive than items from textbooks
- Fees vary by publisher—and even by each request to the same publisher
  - What is being used?
  - How is it being used?
  - By whom is it being used?
Copyright Permissions, continued

- **Usage in multiple formats increases cost**
  - Typically pay for usage of same table/figure for each format
  - Usage in electronic format tends to be most costly because of capability for wider distribution

- **Not everything on the Web is free of copyright**
Copyright Permissions, continued

• **Modifications or Adaptations**
  – On the advice of counsel, permission should be requested even for “modified” or “adapted” tables (err on side of caution)
    - *New England Journal of Medicine* and *JAMA* both require permission even for adapted tables and figures
  – Changing the font and re-typesetting a table does **not** constitute a modification
  – Permission **must** be requested from original source
    - If table or figure is from secondary source and modifications were made from original source, then permission must be obtained from both sources
Copyright Permissions, continued

• Permission is NOT needed:
  – When citing data from another source (e.g., you created a table that incorporates data originally published in the text of an article in a journal); however, data should be credited to original source
  – Material developed by a government agency
    • Exception: Images created by A.D.A.M. may appear on a government website, however, A.D.A.M. is a for-profit company and there is a cost to use its images