Editors’ Response to Johnson

When we allowed the authors to publish these articles with some sequence data withheld, the purpose was not to keep reputable scientists familiar with dual use research of concern (DURC) procedures from obtaining useful information, but to prevent those with ill intent from obtaining potentially dangerous information in advance of antitoxin availability. It is our full expectation that authors of all articles published in The Journal of Infectious Diseases share strains and data related to their article’s content with appropriate scientist colleagues for validation and further studies.