

We claim:

1. A method of treating chronic lymphoid leukemia in a mammal comprising of determining the level of endogenous RhoH expression in the lymphocytes of said mammal and reconstituting RhoH gene expression in the chronic lymphoid leukemia lymphocytes if the endogenous RhoH expression is below a predetermined level.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein reconstituting RhoH gene expression comprises introducing an exogenous RhoH gene into said lymphocytes.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein the level of endogenous RhoH gene expression is determined by qRT-PCR.
4. The method of claim 3, wherein the exogenous Rho H gene is carried in an expression vector.
5. The method of claim 4, wherein the expression vector is a viral vector.
6. The method of claim 1, wherein the chronic lymphoid leukemia is selected from the group consisting of:
 - a. adult-T-cell leukemia (ATL);
 - b. chronic lymphocytic leukemia (CLL);
 - c. hairy cell leukemia (HCL).
7. The method of claim 1, wherein the mammal is a human.
8. The method of claim 1, wherein the level of endogeneous RhoH is reduced by at least 70% of the predetermined level.
9. A method of diagnosing chronic lymphoid leukemia in a mammal comprising of determining the level of RhoH expression in lymphocytes from the mammal, wherein a reduced expression of Rho H compared to a predetermined level indicates presence of chronic lymphoid leukemia.
10. The method of claim 9, wherein the level of endogenous RhoH gene expression is determined by qRT-PCR.

11. The method of claim 9, wherein the level of endogenous RhoH is reduced by at least 70% of the predetermined level.
12. A method of screening for compounds that alleviate RhoH repression in chronic lymphoid leukemia comprising of exposing ATL or HCL derived cell lines to the said compounds, determining the level of endogenous RhoH expression in said treated cell lines, and comparing the level with a predetermined level of endogenous RhoH expression, wherein a compound that results in an increase in the endogenous RhoH gene expression in the cell lines is considered a candidate compound for the treatment of chronic lymphoid leukemia.
13. The method of claim 12, wherein the cell lines carry a CD11c promoter-luciferase reporter vector or a RhoH promoter-luciferase reporter vector.
14. The method of claim 13, further comprising of determining the level of luciferase activity.
15. The method of claim 12, wherein the level of RhoH expression is determined by qRT-PCR.