

We Claim:

1. A modified lectin protein, wherein the modified lectin protein comprises an amino acid sequence selected from any one of:
SEQ ID NO:5 or SEQ ID NO:14.
2. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a modified lectin protein as claimed in claim 1 and a pharmaceutically acceptable diluent or excipient and optionally a further therapeutic ingredient.
3. A modified lectin protein as claimed in claim 1 for use in the treatment of cancer.
4. The modified lectin protein as claimed in claim 1 for use in the detection of a cancer cell, cancer diagnosis and/or cancer therapy.
5. A nucleic acid molecule comprising a nucleotide sequence encoding a modified lectin protein as claimed in claim 1.
6. A recombinant vector comprising an insert of a nucleic acid molecule as claimed in claim 5.
7. The recombinant vector as claimed in claim 6 comprising operatively linked in a 5' to 3' direction: a promoter which functions in a host cell; a nucleotide sequence according to claim 5 encoding a modified lectin protein; and a termination signal.
8. The recombinant vector as claimed in claim 6 or 7, wherein the recombinant vector is capable of being replicated, transcribed, translated and/or expressed in a unicellular organism.
9. A transformed host cell comprising the nucleic acid molecule according to claim 10 or the recombinant vector as claimed in any one of claims 6 to 8.
10. The transformed host cell as claimed in claim 9, wherein the host cell is an *Escherichia coli* bacterium or a yeast cell.
11. A method for producing a recombinant *Sclerotium rolfsii* lectin protein comprising:
 - i) culturing a host cell containing the recombinant vector as claimed in any one of claims 6 to 8 coding for a recombinant lectin protein;

- ii) expressing the recombinant lectin protein;
 - iii) isolating a crude recombinant lectin protein from the culture.
12. The pharmaceutical composition as claimed in claim 2, for use in the treatment of cancer.
 13. The pharmaceutical compositions as claimed in claim 2, for use in the detection of a cancer cell, cancer diagnosis and/or cancer therapy.