1. A nucleic acid ligand that binds CLEC-2, wherein said ligand comprises a nucleic acid sequence and wherein said nucleic acid sequence forms at least one stem structure and at least one loop structure, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

2. The ligand of claim 1, wherein the ligand comprises, in a 5' to 3' direction:
a first stem which is 5-10 basepairs in length;
a first trinucleotide loop which comprises the sequence 5'-GNC-3';
a second stem which is 4 basepairs in length, wherein said second stem comprises a wobble pair at the base of the second stem; and
a second loop comprising the nucleotide sequence 5'-YUYNNRYU-3'.

3. The ligand of claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid sequence comprises a sequence which is at least 80% identical to SEQ ID NO:7, or SEQ ID NO:8, or SEQ ID NO:9.

4. The ligand of claim 1, wherein said nucleic acid sequence comprises a sequence which is at least 80% identical to SEQ ID NO:24.

5. The ligand of claim any one of the preceding claims, wherein said ligand binds CLEC-2 with dissociation constant ranging from about 0.1 nM to 10 nM.

6. A pharmaceutical composition comprising a ligand according to any one of the preceding claims, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof.

7. A modulator which binds specifically to a CLEC-2 ligand,
wherein said modulator comprises a second nucleic acid sequence; and
wherein said CLEC-2 ligand comprises a first nucleic acid sequence.

8. Use of the ligand according to any one of claims 1 to 6, or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt thereof, in the manufacture of a medicament for treating a CLEC-2-mediated disorder in a host in need thereof.

9. The use of claim 8, wherein the CLEC-2-mediated disorder is a platelet-mediated disorder.

10. The use of claim 8 or 9, wherein the platelet-mediated disorder is selected from the group consisting of a vascular disorder, a cardiovascular disorder, a peripheral vascular disorder, a cerebrovascular disorder, a platelet-mediated inflammatory disorder, a diabetes-related disorder, a cancer, and HIV infection.

~~11. The use of claim 10, wherein the vascular disorder is selected from the group consisting of~~ acute coronary syndromes, thrombosis, thromboembolism, thrombocytopenia, peripheral vascular disease, and transient ischemic attack.

12. The use of claim 10, wherein the cerebrovascular disorder is selected from the group consisting of transient ischemic attack, ischemic stroke, and embolism.

13. The use of claim 10, wherein the platelet-mediated inflammatory disorder selected from the group consisting of arthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, psoriatic arthritis, reactive arthritis, inflammatory bowel disease, ankylosing spondylitis, and scleroderma.

14. The use of claim 10, wherein the cancer is selected from the group consisting of lung cancer, breast cancer, prostate cancer, testicular cancer, pancreatic cancer, brain cancer, bone cancer and liver cancer.

15. The use of claim 10, wherein the diabetes-related disorder is selected from the group consisting of diabetic retinopathy, diabetic vasculopathy, atherosclerosis, ischemic stroke, peripheral vascular disease, acute renal injury and chronic renal failure.

16. A method for determining whether a CLEC-2 ligand activates or inhibits CLEC-2-dependent platelet aggregate formation, comprising

(a) mixing a CLEC-2 ligand with a blood sample to prepare a treated blood sample;

(b) contacting the treated blood sample with a facilitator molecule, wherein said facilitator molecule is immobilized on a solid support;

(c) measuring platelet aggregate formation after the contacting;

(d) comparing the degree of platelet aggregate formation detected in step (c) with the degree of platelet aggregation obtained when a control blood sample with no CLEC-2 ligand is used to contact the facilitator molecule.

17. The method of claim 16, wherein the facilitator molecule is an activator of CLEC-2.

18. The method of claim 16 or 17, wherein the facilitator molecule is soluble collagen type I, II or III, and wherein the method further comprises adding rhodocytin to the blood sample.

19. The method of claim 16, 17 or 18, further comprising mixing the treated blood sample with a modulator molecule prior to step (b), wherein said modulator molecule is capable of binding said regulating ligand molecule.

20. A kit comprising a CLEC-2 ligand and a pharmaceutical excipient.

21. The kit according to claim 20, further comprising a modulator which specifically binds the CLEC-2 ligand.

22. A kit comprising a modulator which specifically binds to a CLEC-2 ligand.