WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A genetically modified rodent animal comprising in its genome a humanized Cxcl13 gene comprising a rodent Cxcl13 nucleic acid sequence and a human CXCL13 nucleic acid sequence, wherein the humanized Cxcl13 gene encodes a humanized Cxcl13 polypeptide comprising a chemokine IL-8 like domain that is at least 95% identical with amino acids 30-91 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

2. The genetically modified rodent animal of claim 1, wherein the humanized Cxcl13 polypeptide comprises a mature protein sequence that is at least 95% identical with amino acids 23-109 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

3. The genetically modified rodent animal of claim 1 or 2, wherein the humanized Cxcl13 protein comprises a rodent signal peptide.

4. The genetically modified rodent animal of claim 3, wherein the rodent signal peptide is the signal peptide of the endogenous rodent Cxcl13 protein.

5. The genetically modified rodent animal of claim 1, wherein the human CXCL13 nucleic acid sequence comprises exons 3-4 of a human CXCL13 gene.

6. The genetically modified rodent animal of claim 1, wherein the human CXCL13 nucleic acid sequence comprises exon 3, exon 4 and the coding portion of exon 5 of a human CXCL13 gene.

7. The genetically modified rodent animal of any one of claims 1-6, wherein the human CXCL13 nucleic acid sequence comprises exon 3, exon 4 and exon 5 of a human CXCL13 gene.

8. The genetically modified rodent animal of any one of claims 1-7, wherein the rodent Cxcl13 nucleic acid sequence comprises exon 1 of a rodent Cxcl13 gene.

9. The genetically modified rodent animal of claim 8, wherein the rodent Cxcl13 gene is an endogenous Cxcl13 gene.

10. The genetically modified rodent animal of claim 1, wherein the humanized Cxcl13 gene comprises exon 1 of a rodent Cxcl13 gene and exons 3-5 of a human CXCL13 gene.

11. The genetically modified rodent animal of any one of claims 1-10, wherein the humanized Cxcl13 gene is operably linked to a rodent Cxcl13 promoter.

12. The genetically modified rodent animal of claim 11, wherein the rodent Cxcl13 promoter is the endogenous rodent Cxcl13 promoter at an endogenous rodent Cxcl13 locus.

13. The genetically modified rodent animal of any one of claims 1-12, wherein the humanized Cxcl13 gene is located at an endogenous rodent Cxcl13 locus.

14. The genetically modified rodent animal of claim 13, wherein the humanized Cxcl13 gene is formed as a result of replacement of a rodent Cxcl13 genomic DNA at an endogenous rodent Cxcl13 locus with the human CXCL13 nucleic acid.

15. The genetically modified rodent animal of claim 13, wherein the humanized Cxcl13 gene is formed as a result of replacement of a rodent genomic DNA comprising exons 2-3 and the coding portion of exon 4 of the rodent Cxcl13 gene at the endogenous rodent Cxcl13 locus with exons 3-5 of a human CXCL13 gene.

16. The genetically modified rodent animal of any of the proceeding claims, wherein the rodent is homozygous for the humanized Cxcl13 gene.

17. The genetically modified rodent animal of any of the proceeding claims, whose genome further comprises a humanized Sirpα gene at an endogenous rodent Sirpα locus, a humanized Baff gene at an endogenous rodent Baff locus, a humanized April gene at an endogenous rodent April locus, a humanized IL-6 gene at an endogenous rodent IL-6 locus, or a combination thereof.

18. The genetically modified rodent animal of any of the proceeding claims, wherein the RAG2 gene and the IL-2RG gene have been disrupted.

19. The genetically modified rodent animal of any of the proceeding claims, wherein the rodent is a mouse or a rat.

20. An isolated rodent tissue or cell, whose genome comprises a humanized Cxcl13 gene comprising a rodent Cxcl13 nucleic acid sequence and a human CXCL13 nucleic acid sequence, wherein the humanized Cxcl13 gene encodes a humanized Cxcl13 polypeptide comprising a chemokine IL-8 like domain that is at least 95% identical with amino acids 30-91 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

21. The isolated rodent tissue or cell of claim 20, wherein the humanized Cxcl13 gene comprises exon 1 of a rodent Cxcl13 gene and exons 3-5 of a human CXCL13 gene.

22. The isolated rodent tissue or cell of claim 20 or 21, wherein the rodent cell is a rodent embryonic stem cell.

23. The isolated rodent tissue or cell of any one of claims 20-22, wherein the rodent is a mouse or a rat.

24. A rodent embryo, comprising the rodent embryonic stem cell of claim 22.

25. A method of making a genetically modified rodent, comprising:

modifying a rodent genome to comprise a humanized Cxcl13 gene, wherein the humanized Cxcl13 gene comprises a rodent Cxcl13 nucleic acid sequence and a human CXCL13 nucleic acid sequence, and encodes a humanized Cxcl13 polypeptide comprising a chemokine IL-8 like domain that is at least 95% identical with amino acids 30-91 of SEQ ID NO: 2; and

making a rodent comprising the modified rodent genome.

26. The method of claim 25, wherein said modifying comprises

introducing a nucleic acid molecule comprising the human CXCL13 nucleic acid sequence into the genome of a rodent embryonic stem (ES) cell,

obtaining a rodent ES cell in which the human CXCL13 nucleic acid sequence has been integrated into an endogenous Cxcl13 locus to replace a rodent Cxcl13 genomic DNA thereby forming the humanized Cxcl13 gene, and

generating a rodent animal from the obtained rodent ES cell.

27. The method of claim 25 or 26, wherein the human CXCL13 nucleic acid sequence comprises exons 3-4 of a human CXCL13 gene.

28. The method of claim 25 or 26, wherein the human CXCL13 nucleic acid sequence encodes a polypeptide that is at least 95% identical with amino acids 23-109 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

29. The method of claim 28, wherein the human CXCL13 nucleic acid sequence comprises exon 3, exon 4 and the coding portion of exon 5 of a human CXCL13 gene.

30. The method of claim 28, wherein the human CXCL13 nucleic acid sequence comprises exons 3-5 of a human CXCL13 gene.

31. The method of claim 26, wherein the humanized Cxcl13 gene comprises exon 1 of the endogenous rodent Cxcl13 gene and exons 3-5 of a human CXCL13 gene, operably linked to the endogenous rodent Cxcl13 promoter at the endogenous rodent Cxcl13 locus.

32. The method of any one of claims 25-31, wherein the rodent is a mouse or a rat.

33. A targeting nucleic acid construct, comprising

a human CXCL13 nucleic acid sequence, flanked by a 5' nucleotide sequence and a 3' nucleotide sequence that are identical to nucleotide sequences at a rodent Cxcl13 locus,

wherein the human CXCL13 nucleic acid sequence encodes a polypeptide that is at least 95% identical with amino acids 30-91 of SEQ ID NO: 2.

34. The targeting nucleic acid construct of claim 33 wherein the human CXCL13 nucleic acid sequence comprises exons 3-5 of a human CXCL13 gene.

35. The targeting nucleic acid of claim 33 or 34, wherein the rodent is a mouse or a rat.

36. A method of testing a candidate agent for treating a disease, comprising

introducing cells derived from a human subject suffering the disease into a genetically modified rodent animal as defined by any of claims 1-19,

contacting the rodent animal with a candidate agent, and

assaying if candidate agent is efficacious in reducing or eliminating the cells.

37. The method of claim 36, wherein the disease is cancer.

38. The method of claim 37, wherein the disease is a leukemia.

39. The method of claim 37 or 38, wherein the candidate agent is an anti-cancer compound, optionally selected from a small molecule compound, a nucleic acid molecule, or an antibody.

40. A rodent genome comprising a humanized Cxcl13 gene, wherein the humanized Cxcl13 gene comprises a rodent Cxcl13 nucleic acid sequence and a human CXCL13 nucleic acid sequence, and wherein the humanized Cxcl13 gene encodes a humanized Cxcl13 polypeptide comprising a chemokine IL-8 like domain that is at least 95% identical with amino acids 30-91 of SEQ ID NO: 2.