

Article work list - Pharmacology

Select name to jump to suggestions and sources for:	Enter name or username to RESERVE an article. Remove name when done.
<u>Frances Oldham Kelsey</u>	

Did you complete any of the tasks below? If so, please write DONE next to each completed task to avoid redundancies.

[Frances Oldham Kelsey](#)

Edits: Add sources and citations

Follow naming conventions consistently

Expand lead to include that she was the first woman to get a PhD in pharmacology DONE, mention her 45-year career at the FDA DONE, emphasize the impact of her refusal to approve thalidomide (prevented U.S. birth defects and directly led to the passage of 1962 Kefauver-Harris Amendment, strengthening FDA authority and drug safety laws)

- National Women's History Museum. "Frances Kathleen Oldham Kelsey". [womenshistory.org](https://www.womenshistory.org/education-resources/biographies/frances-kathleen-oldham-kelsey).
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- Lost Women of Science (2021). "The Devil in the Details: Chapter One". *Podcast episode*.
<https://www.lostwomenofscience.org/podcast-episodes/the-devil-in-the-details-chapter-one>
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- Roberts, Sam (7 August 2015). "Frances Oldham Kelsey, FDA Doctor Who Exposed Danger of Thalidomide, Dies at 101". *The New York Times*. <https://www.nytimes.com/2015/08/08/science/frances-oldham-kelsey-fda-doctor-who-exposed-danger-of-thalidomide-dies-at-101.html>
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- U.S. Food and Drug Administration (2015). "Frances O. Kelsey Biography and Papers" (PDF). *FDA.gov*. <https://www.fda.gov/media/89162/download>

Restructure sections: Rename “birth and education” to early life and education (DONE), keep academic career section, create FDA career section with subsections (Thalidomide case, Later regulatory work), keep later life and death section, split “legacy and awards” into two sections Legacy and Honors and awards (DONE).

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- Roberts, Sam (7 August 2015). "Frances Oldham Kelsey, FDA Doctor Who Exposed Danger of Thalidomide, Dies at 101". *The New York Times*. <https://www.nytimes.com/2015/08/08/science/frances-oldham-kelsey-fda-doctor-who-exposed-danger-of-thalidomide-dies-at-101.html>

Add details to Early life and education section: family information (parent's names, one of 3 siblings), Note that Geiling established the country's first pharmacology lab, clarify PhD timeline (enrolled in 1936 and earned doctorate in 1938, ~~becoming first woman to receive PhD in pharmacology~~) DONE

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Enhance Academic career section: Specify year joined University of Chicago faculty and her position, add that following her malaria research she spent a month studying embryology and the Carnegie Institute in Baltimore, highlight that her marriage prompted her to enroll in medical school in 1946 - a time when less than ten percent of graduate students and medical students were women, correct the name of the Journal of American Medical Association, note that she completed a fellowship in radioisotopes at the University of South Dakota and mention that while teaching she also worked in private practice, specify year that she became a naturalized American citizen.

- National Women's History Museum. "Frances Kathleen Oldham Kelsey". *womenshistory.org*. <https://www.womenshistory.org/education-resources/biographies/frances-kathleen-oldham-kelsey>
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Enhance work on thalidomide: Verify or remove claim that "she recognized their authors as having published suspicious articles in the past Kelsey also observed that the application said nothing about the chirality of thalidomide," emphasize the pressure she experienced from drug company throughout process, clarify that she read the British Medical Journal article in 1961, note that at the time drug companies were permitted to distribute "experimental drugs" and Merrell was distributing the drug even though it wasn't yet FDA approved, summarize the worldwide impact of thalidomide and contrast to US context, explicitly connect her refusal to the passage of Kefauver–Harris Amendments of 1962

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- U.S. Food and Drug Administration. "Promoting Safe and Effective Drugs for 100 Years". *FDA.gov*.
<https://www.fda.gov/about-fda/histories-product-regulation/promoting-safe-effective-drugs-100-years>
- U.S. Food and Drug Administration. "Frances Oldham Kelsey: Medical Reviewer Famous for Averting a Public Health Tragedy". *FDA.gov*.
<https://www.fda.gov/about-fda/fda-history-exhibits/frances-oldham-kelsey-medical-reviewer-famous-averting-public-health-tragedy>
- "Heroine' of FDA Keeps Bad Drug Off Market." *The Washington Post*. 15 July 1962.
<https://www.washingtonpost.com/wp-srv/washtech/longterm/thalidomide/keystories/071598drug.htm>
- Schwetz, Thomas A. (2021). "Thalidomide, regulatory failure, and lessons still to be learned". *Expert Opinion on Drug Safety*. 20 (12): 1517–1520.
<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/14740338.2021.1991307#d1e223>

- Daemmrich, Arthur A. (2015). "What does thalidomide's success story teach us?". *Innovation: The European Journal of Social Science Research*. 28 (4): 453–467. <https://pmc.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/articles/PMC4737249/>
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Add detail to later regulatory work: highlight that in response to the new legislation the FDA created a new division (the Investigational Drug Branch) charged with evaluating proposed clinical trials for compliance with new regulations, specify responsibilities of Division of Scientific Investigations (inspecting clinical sites to vet integrity of data), move retirement date to this section.

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Awards and honors: consolidate details of all her awards and honors in this section.

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<https://www.fda.gov/about-fda/fda-history-exhibits/frances-oldham-kelsey-medical-reviewer-famous-averting-public-health-tragedy>

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