

**IMPACT OF DIVIDEND POLICY ON FIRM VALUE OF LISTED
HEALTHCARE COMPANIES IN NIGERIA**

***Onuora J.K.J. (Ph.D.) **Aroh, Ebele Marthar *** Egwuda Lovely**

*Department of Accountancy Chukwuemeka Odumegwu Ojukwu University, Igbariam
Campus*

**jk.onuora@coou.edu.ng ** arohebelemartha@gmail.com.*

Abstract

The study examined the impact of dividend policy on firm value of selected health care companies in Nigeria within the year 2010 and 2019. Secondary data were used while research question and hypothesis were formulated. We conducted descriptive statistics, correlation and regression analysis for the study. our results showed that the variable of the study which are dividend payout, dividend yield, earning per share shows positive and significant effect on firm value therefore, the study recommend stability in the payment of the dividend and introduction of more variable for clarity in so doing, it will encourage more inventors in this field.

Keywords: Dividend Policy, Firm Value, dividend payout, earnings per share, audit firm size.

Introduction

Background of the study

The main objective of financial management in any organization is to maximize its value; this value is often understood to be reflected in the company's share price. According to Barman (2008), if dividend are the key indicators of share price and the share price the key indicator of firm value, in other to maximize shareholders' wealth, the company should embrace dividend policy that will increase the share price of the company. The profit a company makes can either be retained in reserve for investment in new project or it can be paid out to the shareholders as dividend. Dividend policy refers to the set of rules or norms that a company follows to decide how much of its profit it will pay out to its shareholders.

The ratio of profit return avocation to investors often times throw management in to deliberation as to the way for the organization and to retain its shareholders value. Management are challenged on whether to pay large, small or zero percentage of their earnings as dividend or to retain them for future investment. Thus management should be cognizance of the fact that unanticipated changes in dividend could alienate existing and potential investors and unstable dividend policy may have adverse effect on investors perception of the company's performance in the financial market thus this paper tend to investigate the impact of dividend policy on some selected health care companies in Nigeria.

The general aim of the study is to investigate the impact of dividend policy on firm value of listed health care companies in Nigeria while the specific objectives include the following:

1. To investigate the impact of dividend pay-out on firm value
2. To analyze the impact of dividend per share on firm value

3. To determine the impact of earnings per share on firm value.
4. To investigate the impact of audit firm size on firm value

In an attempt to realize the study objectives, the study hypothesized that:

1. H₁: Dividend pay-out does not significantly impact on firm value
2. H₂: Dividend yield does not significantly impact on firm value.
3. H₃: There is no significant influence of earning per share and firm value.
4. H₄: There is no significant effect of audit form size on firm value

Review of Related Literature

Conceptual Framework

Dividend policy is defined as principles and rules that are set up by executive leaders to act as a guide and constraints for organization's thoughts and actions. Micheal Aluko (1987) defined dividend policy as the distribution of some of the company's earnings to a class of its shareholders as determined by the company's board of directors. Egungwu (2010), Priya and Mohanasundari (2016) defined dividend policy as the set of rules which the company's directors have to decide how much of it will be paid out to the shareholders as dividend. Basically, dividend policy is the determination of the proportion of profit to be given to the shareholders. Kabmir (2010) stated that firm value is the investors' perception of the company's success rate which is often associated with stock prices. High stock prices make firm value also high and the higher the firm value elucidates the high prosperity of shareholders. Kasmir (2010) also stated that firm value can be reflected in its share price which is a reflection of investment, financing and asset management decisions. Firm value is calculated using Tobin's Q calculations (Tobin and Brainard (1968).

It has been a normal practice to measure dividend policy and firm value using different variables. Nameel, Mcmillan and Ishaque (2017) employed dividend per share and dividend yield as a proxy for dividend policy. Also, various studies made use of Tobin's Q as a measure of firm value which includes Lunapow and Juniwa (2017), Akram Budagaga (2017), Obaid and Reliman (2017) and Dian Oktarina (2018).

Dividend payout

According to Aminu and Abor (2006) and Rehman (2012), dividend payout ratio shows the percentage of the company's net income allocated to shareholders as dividend. The companies always maintain a dividend payout relationship to meet shareholders' expectations. It is the ratio of the total amount of dividend payout to shareholders relative to the net income of the company. It is the percentage of earnings paid to shareholders in form of dividend. The amount that is not paid is retained by the company to pay off debt or to reinvest in core operations. It is sometimes simply referred to as the payout ratio.

Earnings per Share

Earnings per share are an important accounting indicator of corporate success. It is used to forecast potential growth in future share prices because changes in earnings per share are often reflected in share price behaviour. Earnings per share is a calculation that allocates a company

to each of its ordinary shares (Vaidya, 2014). It serves as an indicator of profitability by measuring the entities performance in relation share capital that is employed to generate such returns.

Firms Value

Firm's value can be reflected in the share price which is a reflection of investment, financing and asset management decisions. If the value the stock is high, it can illustrate that the firm value is also high. It is the investor's perception of the company's success which is often associated with stock. High stock value makes firm value also high and the higher the firm value, the higher the prosperity of the shareholders. The firm value is calculated using Tobin's Q (Tobin and Bernard 1968).

Audit Firm Size

Audit firms can be broadly classified into two groups. This is because reputable firms (e.g. big four auditors) want to sustain their reputation and fear and fear losing what they have built if they provide low quality services

Dividend Yield

It is one of the most important financial ratios. Dividend yield tells us how much a company pays out in dividend each year relative to its share price. $\text{Dividend yield} = \frac{\text{annual dividend per share}}{\text{price per share}}$. It is a financial ratio that measures the annual value of dividend received to the market value of dividend per share of a security. In other words, it calculates the percentage of a company's market price of a share that is paid to shareholders in form of dividend.

Theoretical Framework

This study is anchored on the theories of the relevant and irrelevant theories of Modigliani and Miller (M&M). The relevant theory is explained using five theories: Bird-in-hand Theory, tax effect theory, clientele effect theory, agency theory and signaling theory. The relevant theory holds that investors would prefer dividend payment to capital gains (Amidu, 2007) because dividends are less risky to capital gain while the irrelevant theory which hold the view that the value of firm depends solely on its earning power and not intended by the manner in which its earnings are splits between dividend and retained earnings. The reason for the adoption of these theories is because the two major schools of thought on dividend policy emphasis that dividend is irrelevant which agrees with irrelevant theory, while the other school of thought on dividend policy emphasis that dividend is relevant which agrees with the bird in hand theory etc.

Empirical Studies

There have been series of studies on this area, both in developed and developing countries. Some of the studies are as follows: Studies by Sorin Gabriel (2016) on the impact of Dividend policy on firm value a panel analysis of 63 non-Romania companies listed on Bucharest Stock exchange over the period of 2001-2011. It was found that dividend payout ratio positively influences firm value after controlling for other firm's specific variable but leverage and firm size was found to have a positive effect on firm value.

In another study conducted by Adams Enebrand (2018) on Firm valuation of Swedish market using regression analysis from 2007-2017. The findings were that stock price of high dividend yield firms are more dependent on financial performance compared to low dividend yield firms. Latter overall positive correlation is found between financial performance and stock price for both samples.

Furthermore, in a study carried out by Lihad Stevanus Lumapow and Ramon Arthur Terry Tuniwa on the impact of dividend policy, firm size and productivity to the firm value on the manufacturing companies listed on Indonesia stock exchange from 2008 to 2014 using a panel data regression with random effect model approach and it showed that dividend policy has negative and significant effect on firm value, furthermore that firm size and productivity has positive and significant effect on firm value.

Obaid and Rehman (2017) researched on the impact of capital structure and dividend policy on firm value of KSE non-financial listed firm using cross sectional time series regression analysis from the period 2006-2013 in Pakistan. The study showed that variables of capital structure and dividend policy has significant impact on dependent variable. (Tobin's Q)

Three independents variable (TOTA as large ration, SG as profit substitutability ratio) of dividend policy has significant impact on dependent variable (Tobin's Q). The research on the dividend payment and its impact on value of firms listed on Istanbul stock exchange a residual income approach carried out by Akram Budagaga (2017) using fixed effect applied on panel data for 44 firms on ISE for period of 2007-2015 the result showed a positive significant relationship between dividend payments and value of firm. Study suggest that dividend irrelevant hypothesis is invalid in case of firms listed on the (ISE).

The study embarked on by Mohammed Amidu (2015) on how does dividend policy impact firm performance in Ghana within the period of 8 years using ordinary least squares model to estimate regression equation and it was found that there is positive relationship between return on asset, dividend policy and growth in sales also there is negative association between return on and dividend payout ratio and leverage. on the study of the impact of financial decision, dividend decision and corporate ownership on firm performance of present or absence of growth opportunity, carried out by Huson Joher Ali Ahmed (2008) over a period of 4 years from 1999 to 2002 using panel based regression approach, it was found that firm debt policy affect firm performance on firm faces growth opportunities. while corporate dividend policy seems to be indifferent for the firms which faces growth or no growth opportunities but provide a multipliers effect on firm performance. Bjorn Lundgren and Christopher Erikson (2016) studies the ownership structure's effect on dividend policy of 284 listed Swedish firms from 2010-2015 using a multiplier regression, findings indicate significant positive relationship between institutional ownership and dividend yield and dividend payout with one exception being private equity which exhibited a negative relationship with dividend yield.

Furthermore, market capitalization, return on asset and price to book value are positively related to dividend payout while debt/equity ratio showed a negative relationship with dividend yield. In another study conducted by Sekolah Tinggi Ilmu from 2013 – 2016 on the analysis of factors influencing dividend policy evidence of Indonesia listed firms using regression analysis indicated that profitability, sales and asset growth have positive significant influence to dividend payout but debt has negative significant effect. Ibenyinwa, Okaro, Ogbonna and Stanley (2019) studied on the effect of dividend policy on shareholders' value of consumer

food firms quoted on Nigerian stock exchange (2011-2015) using a convenient sampling technique of 7 selected firms from consumer goods sector. Result showed that 93.82% of the total variation in shareholder value is significantly and collectively explained by dividend policy variables of dividend per share, dividend payout ratio and earnings per share. study showed that dividend per share and earning per share have significant positive effect on shareholders' value while dividend payment ratio has in significant negative effect on shareholders' value. Finally, sadia ishaque and Nabeel Younus Anrar/David McMillan (2017) conducted a research on impact of dividend policy on shareholders' wealth and firm performance in Pakistan using regression found out that dividend policy has positively significant impact on shareholders' wealth and firm performance. Then dividend per share and dividend yield is used to measure dividend policy.

from these reviewed works by the researcher, it was found that the study on the impact of dividend policy on firm value in Nigeria have been carried out but the research is introducing the listed health care companies in Nigeria and this necessitates the need for the study.

Methodology

In this study, *ex-post facto* research design is employed. The population is made up of all healthcare firms that are listed on the floor of the Nigerian stock exchange market for the period between 2010 and 2019. As at 31st December, 2019 the total number of listed healthcare firms were ten (10). However, the sample size of this study consists of 6 listed healthcare firms as 4 of the firms from the population were deselected based on the condition that they joined the Nigerian stock market after the start period (2010) of the study. In examining the effect of dividend policy on firm value of listed healthcare firms in Nigeria, we adopted the robust standard error regression analyses technique which corrected for the problem of heteroskedasticity that was found in the panel ordinary least square regression. Furthermore, the researcher modified the model of Morovvati Siboni and Pourali, (2015) to express the econometric equation as:

$$TobinQ_{it} = \beta_0 + \beta_1EPS_{it} + \beta_2Diyd_{it} + \beta_3Divp_{it} + \beta_4Afsize_{it} + \beta_5Acgendiv_{it} + e_{it}$$

Where:

TobinQ	=	Tobin Q
EPS	=	Earnings Per Share
Diyd	=	Dividend Yield
Divp	=	Dividend Payout
Afsize	=	Audit Firm Size
Acgendive	=	Audit committee gender diversity
“{i}”	=	Cross Section (Sample Companies)
“t”	=	Time Frame (2010 to 2019)

ϵ_{it} = Stochastic error Term

Results and Discussion of Findings

To examine the effect of dividend policy on firm value, we first conduct some pre-regression statistics; descriptive statistics. The descriptive statistics gives insight into the nature of the sampled firms employed in this study. The result is shown below:

Descriptive Statistics Result

Variable	Obs	Mean	Std. Dev.	Min	Max
tobin_q	60	1.063167	.6050844	.12	3.18
eps	60	9.655	55.92956	-112.33	347
diyd	60	4.0605	11.02538	-1.9	68.57
divp	60	76.14169	318.8277	-307.86	1955.45
af_size	60	.4576271	.5024778	0	1
acgendiv	60	10.52777	15.35361	0	50

Source: Authors Computation (2021)

From the table above, it is observed that on the average, Tobin q is 1.063 with a standard deviation of 0.605. Similarly, on the average, earnings per share was 9.655 while dividend yield was 4.061. In the same vein, dividend payout was 0.338 indicating that 34% of the firms in our sample paid dividend within the period under study. On the average, the table also reveal that about 46% of the firms in our sample engaged the services of big4 audit firms as against 54% of the firms that engaged the services of non-big4 auditors. Finally, the control variable of audit committee gender diversity indicates that on the average 11% of the firms in our sample had a female representative in the audit committee.

Test for Normality Residua

Data normality is one of the assumptions of the ordinary least square regression. That is to say, the observation is distributed normally (Gaussian). As a result, it is presumed that the samples are drawn from a naturally distributed population. Mendes and Pala (2003) concluded that the Shapiro-Wilk test is the most efficient normality test which the researcher followed. Consequently, the researcher conducted a residual normality test, as shown in the table below.

Data Normality Result

Variable	Obs	W'	V'	z	Prob>z
tobin_q	60	0.81304	11.249	4.628	0.00001
eps	60	0.56058	26.439	6.263	0.00001
diyd	60	0.41523	35.184	6.809	0.00001
divp	60	0.33821	39.289	7.013	0.00001
af_size	60	1.00000	0.000	-58.405	1.00000
acgdiv	60	0.98351	0.992	-0.015	0.50615

Source: Authors Computation (2021)

From the table above, it is observed that the dependent variable of tobin-Q (Prob > z = 0.00001) is not normally distributed. Similarly, all the independent variables of the study except audit firm size (Prob > z = 1.00000) are not normally distributed. However, audit firm size (Prob > z = 1.00000) and the control variable of audit committee gender diversity (Prob > z = 0.50615) is normally distributed since the probability of the z-statistics is significant. This is justified following the study of Bera and Jarque (1982).

Correlation Analysis

The relationship between two or more variables is often of interest in data analysis. Measures of association are descriptive statistical measures that demonstrate the intensity or degree of relationship between two or more variables. We use Spearman Rank Correlation technique to investigate the potential relationship between the variables of interest shown in the table below mainly because the data set had a non-normal distribution.

Correlation Matrix Result

	tobin_q	eps	diyd	divp	af_size	aucd_a~d
tobin_q	1.0000					
eps	-0.0161	1.0000				
diyd	-0.0824	0.3941	1.0000			
divp	0.0568	0.6030	0.5811	1.0000		
af_size	0.1978	0.3686	0.5188	0.5688	1.0000	
acgdiv	-0.2196	0.1078	0.5207	0.2811	0.4131	1.0000

Source: Authors Computation (2021)

From the table above, we observed that earnings per share (-0.016), dividend yield (-0.082) and the control variable of audit committee gender diversity (-0.108) are negatively correlated with the dependent variable of Tobin Q. However, the independent variable of dividend payout (0.057) and audit firm size (0.198) are positively correlated with the dependent variable of Tobin Q. These relationships are observed to be weak and thus there is no room to suspect the presence of multicollinearity.

Robust Standard Error Regression Estimator

Due to the presence of heteroscedasticity obtained from the panel least square regression estimator, the study employs Eicker-White robust standard errors which was relied upon upon for hypotheses testing.

Robust Standard Regression Estimates

Variables	EPS	Dividend Yield	Dividend Payout	Aud. Firm Size	Aud. Com. Gendiv
Tobin Q Model					
Coefficient	-0.006	-0.090	0.123	0.300	-0.015
t_ Statistics	(-3.54)	(-4.08)	(2.60)	(2.56)	(-4.59)
Probability_t	{0.002} **	{0.001} **	{0.017} **	{0.019} **	{0.000} *
No. of Obs = 59					
Prob. > F = 0.0000					

Note: t-statistics and respective probabilities are represented in () and { }

Where: ** represents 5% & * represent 1% level of significance

Source: Authors' Computations (2021)

The table above show a summarized result obtained from robust standard error estimator for Tobin Q model. Specifically, we provide interpretation for the robust standard error estimator as recommended by Gujarati (2004). The model goodness of fit as captured by the Fisher statistics (12.60) and the corresponding probability value (0.0000) shows a 1% statistically significant level suggesting that the entire model is fit and can be employed for interpretation and policy recommendation. From the results, earnings per share have a negative statistically significant effect on tobin Q. This is shown as (*Eps*; Coef. =-0.006, t = -3.54 and P -value = 0.002). The results implies that a 1% increase in the value of earnings per share will reduce firm value by 1%. Succinctly, we deduce that increasing earnings per share does not statistically mean an improved firm value. This finding contradicts of Lev, (1989) as well as those of Fama and French, 2001 who concluded that an increase in the firm's earnings represents an increase in company value while a decrease in earnings represents a decrease in company value. The results obtained from this study also reveal that dividend yield has a negative statistical effect on firm value. This is shown as (*Divyd*; Coef. =-0.090, t = -4.08 and P -value = 0.001). The results implies that a 1% increase in dividend yield will reduce firm value by 9%. Again, this finding contradict prior findings of Heikal, Khaddafi & Ummah 2014; Zagger & Zagger 2006; Anaja & Onoja 2015; Ekwe (2013).

Dividend pay-out is seen to have a positive statistically significant effect on firm value. This is shown as (*Divp*; Coef. =-0.123, t = 2.60 and P -value = 0.017). The results imply that a 1% increase in dividend pay-out will increase firm value by 12%. This is in line with the studies of Morovvati Siboni and Pourali, (2015), Anton, (2016), Rehman, (2016) who concluded that dividend payout improve firm value and posit that the main aim of a firm existence is to pay

dividend so as to increase share price. However, we document contradictions with the studies of Odum et al., (2019) who found a negative effect of dividend payout on firm value. We also document a positive statistically significant effect of audit firm size and firm value. This is shown as (*Divp*; Coef. =-0.300, t = 2.56 and P -value = 0.019). This result means that a 1% increase in the use of big4 audit firms will increase client firm value by 30%. We align this finding to the studies of Afza and Nazir (2014), Hassan and Farouk (2014) and Wijaya (2019) who also documented a positive effect of big4 auditing firms on client firm value. However, Challen and Siregar (2012) in their study found that big4 auditors do not necessarily improve firm value.

Summary of Findings

Base on some selected health care companies in Nigeria within the year 2010 to 2019. The following observations were made;

1. Earnings per share have a negative statistically significant effect on firm value (Tobin's q).
2. Dividend yield has a negative statistically significant effect on firm value.
3. Dividend payout is seen to have a positive statistically significant effect on firm value.
4. We also document a positive statistically significant effect of audit firm size and firm value

Recommendation

On the basis of the findings and conclusions of the study, the paper recommends among others that:

1. Investors value firms which pays higher dividend over the period. Therefore, we suggest that managers can create more value by increasing dividend to an optima eve.
2. Since companies who engage the services of big 4 auditors have reputable firm value. It is advised that firms in other sectors economy should engage their services also.
3. Earnings per share of any company can create its respective firm value. If more earnings per share is displayed in the annual report, more firm value can be created.
4. Firms in this industry need to improve in its dividend in relation to its share price as it will go a long way to increase firm value.

Conclusion

Dividend decision is extremely important to company's valuation which practically translate to capital gain in share prices; shareholder's wealth maximization is a paramount objective of a finance manager; which serve as return-on-investment outlay as reflected in the value of the firm. Return consists of two components: dividends and bullish stock (capital gain). This study examines the effect of dividend policy on firm value of listed healthcare firms in Nigeria for the period 2010 to 2019. From the findings of this study, we conclude that dividend policy (in terms of payout policy) has a statistically significant effect on firm value. Succinctly, the

researcher recommends that managements should focus on drafting policies that will maintain dividend payout which will ultimately improve firm value.

References

- Adams Enebrand, S. G. (2018). *Distressed debt analysis: Strategies for speculative investors*. J. Ross Publishing.
- Afza, T., & Nazir, M. S. (2014). Audit quality and firm value: A case of Pakistan. *Research Journal of Applied Sciences, Engineering and Technology*, 7(9), 1803-1810.
- Akram Budaga, T. (2017). Ownership structure and cash flows as determinants of corporate dividend policy in Pakistan. *International Business Research*, 3(3), 210-221.
- Akram, G., (2017). The firm-specific determinants of corporate capital structure: Evidence from Turkish panel data. *Investment Management and Financial Innovations*, 3(3), 125-139.
- Anton, S. G. (2016). The impact of dividend policy on firm value. A panel data analysis of Romanian listed firms. *Journal of Public Administration, Finance and Law*, (10), 107-112.
- Barman P.G(2008) An evaluation of how dividend policy impact on the share price of selected companies. A thesis submitted in partial fulfillment for the degree in masters of technologies, Nelson Mandela Metropolitan University.
- Bjorn Lundgren, P., & Christopher Erikson, A., (2016). The impact of initiating dividend payments on shareholders' wealth. *Journal of Business and Management*, 77-96.
- Bjorn, M., & Erikson, A., (2016). The determinants of capital structure for selected Bangladeshi listed companies. *International Review of Business Research Papers*, 7(2), 21-36.
- Challen, A. E., & Siregar, S. V. (2017). Audit quality on earnings management and firm value. *Jurnal Keuangan dan Perbankan*, 14(1).
- Egungwu, M.R. (2010), "Do firms rebalance their capital structures?", *Journal of Finance* 60.
- Lima, M. 2009. An Insight into the Capital Structure Determinants of the Pharmaceutical Companies in Bangladesh. In GBMF Conference.
- Farouk, M. A., & Hassan, S. U. (2014). Impact of audit quality and financial performance of quoted cement firms in Nigeria. *International Journal of Accounting and Taxation*, 2(2), 1-22.
- Heikal, M., Khaddafi, M., & Ummah, A. (2014). Influence analysis of return on assets (ROA), return on equity (ROE), net profit margin (NPM), debt to equity ratio (DER), and current ratio (CR), against corporate profit growth in automotive in Indonesia Stock Exchange. *International Journal of Academic Research in Business and Social Sciences*, 4(12), 101.

- Huston Jober Ai Ahmed (2008), The impact of financial decision, dividend policy and corporate ownership on firm performance at presence or absence of growth opportunity, a pane data approach, evidence from Kuala lemur stock exchange. Corporate ownership and control, volume 6, issue 1, fa 2008.
- Ibenyanwa, K., Okaro, A., Ogbonna, P. & Stanley, G., (2019). Impact of debt-equity and dividend payout ratio on the value of the firm. Global Journal of Commerce and Management Perspective, 18-27.
- Lease et al, (2000). The Determinants of Capital Structure, an Empirical Study of Japanese Companies.
- Lumacpow, S. A. (2017). The determination of financial structure: the incentive-signalling approach. The bell journal of economics, 23-40.
- Lumapow, C., & Tunywa, J., (2017). Impact of Capital Structure on Firms' Financial Performance: Evidence from Pakistan, Journal of Basic and Applied Scientific Research.
- Lumapow, R., & Juniwa, W., (2017). The impact of capital structure change on firm value: Some estimates. The Journal of Finance, 38(1), 107-126.
- Lundgren, M., & Trikson, C. M. (2016). Dividend policy and stock price volatility in Pakistan. In PIDE-19th Annual General Meeting and Conference (pp. 13-15).
- Mohammed Amidu. (2015). Impact of Capital Structure on Firms' Financial Performance: Evidence from Pakistan, Research Journal of Finance and Accounting.
- Morovvati Siboni, Z., & Pourali, M. R. (2015). The Relationship between Investment Opportunity, Dividend Policy and Firm Value in Companies Listed in TSE: Evidence from IRAN. *European Online Journal of Natural and Social Sciences: Proceedings*, 4(1 (s)), pp-263.
- Nabeel Younus Anrar, S., and David Mcmillian, N., (2017). "Corporate Financing and Investment Decisions when Firms have Information those Investors do not have." Journal of Financial Economics 13, 187-221.
- Nabeel, Y., Mcmillian, P., & Ishaque, Y. (2017). Ownership structure and the cost of corporate borrowing. Journal of Financial Economics, 100(1), 1-23.
- Obaid, F., and Rehman, M.H., (2017), The cost of capital, corporate finance and the theory of investment. American Economic Review 48, 261-297.
- Obaid, R. G., & Rehman, L. (2017). What do we know about capital structure? Some evidence from international data. The journal of Finance, 50(5), 1421-1460.
- Odum, A. N., Odum, C. G., Omeziri, R. I., & Egbunike, C. F. (2019). Impact of dividend payout ratio on the value of firm: A study of companies listed on the Nigerian Stock Exchange. *Indonesian Journal of Contemporary Management Research*, 1(1), 25-34.

Priya A. & Mohanasundari R. 2019. Agency problems and dividend policies around the world. *Journal of Finance*, 55,1–33.

Sorin Gabrien, M., (2016). Corporate income taxes and the cost of capital: A correction, *American Economic Review*, 53, 433-443.

Trikson, J.L. 2016. “Determinants of Capital Structure and Impact of Capital Structure on Firm Value. *Journal of Business and Management*, 23-30

Zager, K., & Zager, L. (2006). The role of financial information in decision making process. *Innovative Marketing*, 2(3), 35-40.