## FACTS ABOUT UC'S STAYWELL WELLNESS PROGRAM

Recently circulated information regarding the University's newest benefit—the StayWell Wellness program—is misleading. As a part of this program, the University is offering eligible employees, retirees and family members a \$75 gift card if they complete a health assessment survey, designed to give employees the tools they need to better manage their own health and wellness.

Below, you'll find a list of some of the misleading claims, along with the facts about the program.

| CLAIM  | FACT  |
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| The third-party that<br>administers the surveys<br>sends the information to your<br>medical plan provider.   | All participants <u>must</u> give their permission for any information from the survey to be shared with an outside party, including medical plan providers. Medical plan providers are required by law to hold health assessment results to the same strict standards of confidentiality that apply to other health information.   |
| StayWell may sell personal<br>health data to other<br>commercial entities, such as<br>insurance companies and<br>employers.  | Neither StayWell nor the University will ever sell personal employee health<br>information to any party. In addition, StayWell will not otherwise use or<br>disclose a UC employee's personal information to any third party except to<br>the extent authorized by that employee, or to comply with applicable law or<br>valid legal process.   |
| All UC unions asked the UC<br>Office of the President to<br>keep personal health<br>responses confidential and<br>UCOP refused.  | UCOP has never refused to keep personal health information confidential.<br>On the contrary, in response to the concerns expressed by the unions, UC<br>asked StayWell to add a REQUIRED question to the health assessment<br>regarding the privacy of employee answers. All information from employee<br>health assessments will be kept private unless the employee indicates<br>otherwise.                                   |
| A <u>recent newspaper article</u><br>revealed that employers were<br>limiting health care options<br>and or charging more for<br>healthcare to employees who<br>refused to divulge their<br>personal health information<br>in such a survey. | UC's medical plan providers are not permitted to use health assessment<br>survey information to increase employee coverage costs, limit coverage, or<br>restrict employees from benefits. No incentive or disincentive will be applied<br>to an individual's medical plan coverage, rates, or premiums based on<br>participation in any aspect of the StayWell program.<br><b>The StayWell program is completely voluntary.</b> |

## **About StayWell**

As part of UC Living Well and the wellness efforts provided at UC locations, StayWell offers improved, standardized wellness and individual health management resources at no charge to employees. The program is designed to help eligible employees and their family members achieve a healthy lifestyle. The program is administered for UC by StayWell Health Management, a renowned nationwide industry leader for nearly 30 years. For more information on the StayWell program and UC LivingWell, please visit http://uclivingwell.ucop.edu/.